

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 5th August, 1997

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Ojode's Question.

Question No.407

DISMISSAL OF ASSISTANT CHIEFS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Ojode not here? The Question is stood over for the moment. Bishop Kimani's Question.

Question No.213

COLLECTION OF MONEY FROM SQUATTERS

Bishop Kimani asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

- (a) whether he is aware that the Chief of Kabazi Location collected over twenty thousand (Kshs20,000) from squatters in Maombi Farm, promising them land for settlement in 1993;
- (b) if he is further aware that the local administration officers shared the money among themselves leaving these squatters without land; and,
- (c) if he could organise to settle these squatters and order the said administration officers to refund the money collected from them.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have consulted the Questioner and informed him that the answer which was prepared was unsatisfactory. I am going back to seek enough information so that I can answer it properly next week and I think he has accepted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: What have you got to say to that, Bishop Kimani?

Bishop Kimani: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I accept, but, which day next week?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Awori): On Tuesday next week, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Okay, I have directed that the Question be put on the Order Paper next week, on Tuesday, or at the earliest time possible.

Question No.470

PAYMENT OF DUES TO TEA FARMERS

Mr. Anyona asked the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Kenya Tea Development Authority has not paid twenty seven (27) tea farmers from Kitutu Masaba, who were transferred from Kebirigo Tea Factory to Tombe Tea Factory in July, 1992, their dues of Kshs32,850, which arose from the differential rate of payment of 60 cents per Kilogramme in the second payment between Kebirigo Tea Factory and Tombe Tea Factory;
- (b) whether he is further aware that Kenya Tea Development Authority has refused to respond to

numerous correspondences on the matter; and,

(c) if he could ensure that these farmers are paid their dues with accrued interest without further delay.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Osogo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg the indulgence of this House that I be allowed to answer this Question on Tuesday next week because I received the reply this morning and I was not satisfied with the information given to the Ministry by the Kenya Tea Development Authority. Of course, I think, the answer which the hon. Member has contains wrong information.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the first place, I have not received any written answer yet, but I would like to agree with the Assistant Minister because this Question has been pending for the last two or so years. The Authority has refused to respond to correspondence and now they are not even ready with an answer. So, could the Assistant Minister undertake to answer this Question next week and make sure that we get a proper answer?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, what do you say?

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Osogo): I will do that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Also, I can assure the hon. Member that the written answer is already in this House, but I disagreed with it this morning.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I really did not quite understand, Mr. Assistant Minister. What did you say about tomorrow?

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Osogo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I affirm that I am going to answer this Question next week.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You mean you have spent all this time without answering the Question? I was consulting here and I thought you were busy answering the Question! Question deferred.

(Question deferred)

Question No.039

INSTALLATION OF STD FACILITY AT KAGWE

Mr. Gitonga asked the Minister for Transport and Telecommunications:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kagwe in Lari Constituency has no Subscribers Trunk Dialling (STD) telephone; and,

(b) if the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, what immediate plans he has to instal this facility for ease of communication.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Khalif): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that Kagwe in Lari Constituency has no Subscribers Trunk Dialling telephone service.

(b) The Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation has identified a plot on which to build Subscribers Trunk Dialling telephone service exchange. A plinth will be put up in November, 1997, and the exchange construction will be undertaken in January, 1998 and the cut-over will be effected by February, 1998.

Mr. Gitonga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a rather sad answer because three years ago, the same Assistant Minister informed me that they were going to install STD facilities at Kagwe, at the end of 1994. Up to this moment, this has not been done. Now, do I take this as an assurance that this will be done by January, 1998? Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that there will be no further delays in this project?

Mr. Khalif: Yes, we will take it seriously, and that is all.

(Mr. Khalif made a gesture)

Mr. Mak'Onyango: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Did you see the Assistant Minister make a gesture? What does that mean to the House? How will it be recorded in the HANSARD?

Mr. Khalif: That gesture means a confirmation. The project is confirmed and it will not fail.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know why the Ministry, or the Government, is very reluctant to install these facilities all over the country bearing in mind that when such facility is installed, it is the Corporation that earns money from the subscribers. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that his Ministry is not going to be waiting for specific Questions from specific Members but that the Ministry is going to undertake a comprehensive

project all over the country, so that Kenyans will always be in touch with their friends wherever they are?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the suggestion by the hon. Member is reasonable. As you are aware, the demand for the telecommunications in the whole country is very high and the equipment which this Corporation uses to provide facility is very expensive. So, we are trying our level best to make sure that each and every Kenyan gets this service.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: While appreciating the fact that the equipment that the Corporation uses to do its work is expensive, is the Assistant Minister aware that the equipment that was installed in Kericho was a mis-investment and a mismatch with all the equipments that the Corporation uses and that the equipment has not worked since it was installed and the Ministry has been shy to commission that project?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of such a case, and if it is there, then that is sad.

Mr. Gitonga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has said that the funds will be made available this financial year, but how much money has been made available?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the second time, I am confirming to the hon. Member that this project will not fail. If need be, the Ministry can assure the hon. Member that this project will be successful. Unfortunately, I do not have the exact figure of the amount of money which is involved. In his own time, we can show him how much money will be spent on this project.

Question No.350

PROVISION OF WATER TO MAKUENI
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Mr. Maundu asked the Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development:-

- (a) when the Makueni District Headquarters will be supplied with water; and,
- (b) if any funds have been set side for this project.

The Assistant Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Ligale): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I believe the hon. Member for Makueni would like to know when my Ministry will supply sufficient water to Wote Town because we are providing the Town with some water. It may not be adequate, but there is some water.

My Ministry has both long-term and short-term plans to increase the water supply to Wote Town as follows:

(i) Short-term Plan

We intend to increase water production capacity of Mwaani and Malivani boreholes from the current production of 100 m³ to 450 m³ of water per day by connecting the bore holes with electricity at an estimated cost of Kshs2 million as soon as that town is put on electricity mains.

(ii) Long-term plan

On the long term aspect, we intend to construct Nzuuni earth dam with a production capacity of 2,100 m³ of water per day at the foot of Kilungu Hill at an estimated cost of Kshs500 million.

(b) My Ministry has set aside Kshs2 million for electrification of the two boreholes that I mentioned in (i) above to supply Makueni Headquarters with water immediately electricity is supplied to the Town. For the construction of the earth dam at Nzuuni, the Ministry is in contact with external financing sources.

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am extremely disappointed that the Assistant Minister is saying that he has supplied some water to Makueni. Makueni is one district where there is not even a drop of water from any tap. In fact, the Government has got three donkeys: GK001, GK002 and GK003 to supply the District personnel with water. My Question is this: The district headquarters is not supplied with anything. Women are carrying water in bottles to wash their newly born children. It is a disaster. Could the Assistant Minister now tell us when this electricity that he is talking about will be supplied to Makueni so that they may connect these boreholes?

Mr. Ligale: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said that my own Ministry will connect the boreholes with electricity as soon as the mains are connected to the Town. Obviously, the question of mains is in the docket of the Ministry of Energy.

Mr. Maundu: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. My question is specific. The Assistant Minister is connecting the supply of water to Makueni District with the supply of electricity to Makueni. Why did he not find out first when the electricity will reach Makueni and then come here with a specific answer? We want water in Makueni.

Mr. Ligale: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my answer still stands.

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister says he is making provision for Kshs500 million. What donors has he approached? Has he made a current provision within the budget to show their seriousness in supplying Makueni with water?

Mr. Ligale: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have confirmed that the Kshs2 million required for electrification is available in the budget. I have further said that we are in touch with donors for the requirements of the long-term aspects. As soon as we have finalised the arrangements, we will get to Makueni.

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a serious matter. Which donors is he talking about? Can he at least tell us one donor as an example?

Mr. Ligale: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are in touch with a number of donors.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question!

Mr. Farah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not been provided with a written answer.

Question No.555

COST OF RESEALING UHURU HIGHWAY-JKIA ROAD

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

- (a) how much money was spent by the Government in resealing Uhuru Highway/Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) Road between 1992 and 1996;
- (b) whether competitive tendering system was applied, and the dates on which the tenders were advertised; and,
- (c) who was/were contracted for the said road works.

The Assistant Minister for Public Works and Housing (Col. Kiluta): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my apologies for not providing the written answer. I beg to give the following reply.

(a) The Government spent Kshs266,825,230.10 to repair and re-carpet the dual carriageway from Westlands, through Uhuru Highway to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) end of dual carriageway.

(b) The works were awarded on 30th July, 1992 and completed on 30th November, 1993. No expenditure was incurred on the same road for either re-carpeting or re-filling during the year 1994/95 and 1995/96. The tender was single sourced with Treasury authority because of urgent repairs which were required at the time to avert further deterioration and also due to the importance of this road to this country and the neighbouring countries.

(c) The project was awarded to Krishan Behal and Sons Ltd.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the distance involved is about 15 kilometres and it comes to almost Kshs20 million per kilometre. No road could cost that much in 1993, except if it is for another purpose. Why was this not advertised? Why was it single sourced when there are so many companies in Kenya to make it competitive? Can the Assistant Minister confirm that the money was actually used for some other things? This was a "padded" contract.

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first, I think I would like to correct the hon. Member's figures here. This is a dual carriage-way and the total distance is 44 kilometres not 15. As I said, we went for single sourcing because of the nature of the road and the urgency involved.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Assistant Minister is aware that the Republic of Kenya has lost the power to govern tendering procedures. The Public Accounts Committee as well as the Public Investments Committee have, on many occasions, drawn the attention of the Government to the need to obey these procedures that exist in law. According to the laws of Kenya, a project of that magnitude cannot be single sourced. Could the Assistant Minister explain to this House, under what authority this was single sourced? Can he go further and explain to this House, why there is a group of five contractors in this Republic who work in cahoots, alternating among themselves and they always present to the Government those five contractors for the Government to give contracts to, when they fully well know that they are greasing the palms of these Ministers so as to under-develop this nation?

(Applause)

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is a very loaded question. I will try to remember what the question was all about. First, as regards the rules governing awarding of single-sourcing contracts, the only authority that can allow single-sourcing is the Treasury but in this case we were given that authority. So, we did not flout any rules. Secondly, I am not aware of those companies which work in cahoots with anybody. If they exist, then you are at liberty

to take whoever is working in cahoots with them to court.

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to know which company was awarded the contract and who are its directors?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member was paying attention, he would have realised that I actually answered that question.

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that you are aware and this "small fish" is aware that there are companies in this country which are doing shoddy jobs on the roads and they continue getting contracts to continue doing shoddy jobs, could the Assistant Minister tell this House whether he is going to de-register one of these companies as a good example so that they can do a good job?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not know that I was a "small fish" because I am a very "big fish" where I come from. However, if the hon. Member can tell me which company has done a shoddy job and bring it to me, then we will consider it.

Hon. Members: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir!

Mr. Manoti: Arising from the answer given by the Assistant Minister that this project was funded by the Treasury alone, who then was supervising this job and how was the certificate of completion issued?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think we need a classroom here. Treasury gives the authority and the Ministry supervises the work.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the first place, the Assistant Minister may not know that the contract was awarded by the Treasury and not the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. My Question was actually directed towards the Treasury and I do not know why they took it to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to also mislead the House by saying that the road is 44 kilometres long when the road was not done as one stretch? It was a patchwork involving resealing of 15 kilometres. In view of this, could the Assistant Minister go back to his own Ministry and come back here and give us the exact number of kilometres, how much it costs to repair one kilometre and why he does not think that this thing was corruptly done unless he wants to abet and aid corruption itself?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we have to say what we know about this Question, some of the Members could not even stand here. However, there was no corruption involved and unless a Member wants us to tell this House what--- This Question was scheduled to come here but the hon. Member who was bringing it cancelled it and this is the second time that it is appearing.

Mr. Farah: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Something very interesting is emerging from this thing. I filed this Question a long way back. It has taken a very long time for this Question to come here and the Assistant Minister has already given an insinuation that there was somebody who tried to have this Question cancelled or rather withdrawn. Could he tell us who it was and could the Speaker's office here also confirm to us who it was?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the Member wants the details, I can bring the details here in this House.

Mr. Farah: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. A very interesting thing is emerging here. I have all along said that somebody was trying to influence this Question not to come to the Floor of the House and the Assistant Minister has insinuated that there has been some influence. Now, he says that he is going to bring the details of who tried to make sure this Question does not come to the Floor of the House. Could he now give an undertaking on the date and then come here and say that because this is a very serious allegation and we want to get to the bottom of it? Could he undertake to come back and give that information because he said he will do that today?

Col. Kiluta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if he wants the details, then I can bring them on Thursday.

Question No.501

INADEQUATE NEWS COVERAGE BY KBC

Mr. Mak'Onyango asked the Minister for Information and Broadcasting:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kenya Broadcasting Corporation is frustrating many of its listeners by failing to report many of the popular news events; and,

(b) why was the station unable to broadcast the news of the epic football match between the Harambee Stars and the Super Eagles of Nigeria at both the 7.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. news broadcast on the 7th of June, 1997.

The Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Makau): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware.

(b) KBC was not able to relay or broadcast the events that took place in Nigeria on the 7.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m because one, at 7.00 p.m. the match was still on and secondly, at 9.00 p.m. the sports editor was still by then compiling the report. However, the following morning at 6.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m., everything was there and Kenyans were very happy. The football fans were especially extremely happy.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, arising from that ridiculous answer, information is power and adequate information is essential for the people to better respond to the circumstances around them. The Minister's answer amounts to admitting that he has technical limitations. Could the Minister as a result of this, consider licensing all the private applicants who have chose to establish private radio stations so that we can get rid of these two technical limitations that the Minister is stating?

Mr. Makau: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like, first of all, to emphasise the fact that when it comes to coverage of sports in this country and especially after the election of the new members of the Kenya Football Federation, we have covered sports events, especially football matches, extensively, even to the extent that many people are wondering why we are giving such heavy coverage to football matches.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir!

Mr. Makau: I was just coming to answer your question since that was just a preface. On the question of licensing all the applicants, there is no country that can license all applicants for radio and television licences. Even the developed countries cannot license all of them.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. You notice that this hon. Minister has this habit of talking a lot of irrelevancies and tends to make an impression on the question put to him. We have not asked you to license all radio stations, but why is it that people have to start pretending that they are KANU supporters the way S.K. Macharia did before they get the licence and such long standing applications like the one from The *Nation* newspapers are treated with contempt by your Ministry? Is this a mouthpiece of KANU propaganda or it is a public institution?

Mr. Makau: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have licensed and we will continue licensing those who are able to operate various TV stations and it is not a question of those who are KANU supporters but it is a question of licensing those who are able and those who qualify to be licensed.

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Minister aware that the news bulletin in this country, for the first ten minutes, starts with by the coverage of President Moi; the next eight minutes, hon. Vice-President, Prof. Saitoti, then the last minutes either hon. Kamotho, hon. Makau or hon. Nassir? For the purpose of the people who want to be informed, could the Minister consider changing the format of news coverage so that Kenyans become informed?

Mr. Makau: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we will continue starting our news bulletin with the coverage, first, of the President because we believe that what the President does is good for this country. We will continue doing so.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on Friday, there was a major news item in this country about the resignation of a Minister, Mr. Koech. Why did KBC not cover such an important event of resignation of a Minister of Government?

Mr. Makau: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we do not collect information or news from the newspapers. The KNA and KBC were not aware, and the BBC is not a source of information for us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Maore.

Question No.466

SALE OF CONTINENTAL HOUSE

Mr. Maore asked the Attorney-General:-

- (a) if he could confirm the sale of Continental House by the Official Receiver;
- (b) whether the sale was by private treaty or by open tender, and what was the actual valuation; and,
- (c) if he could state the total amount collected, so far, from the disposal of the assets of Continental Credit Finance and Continental Bank and whether that meets the total liabilities.

The Attorney-General (Mr. Wako): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

- (a) I confirm the sale of Continental House by the Official Receiver.
- (b) The sale was by open tender and the actual valuation was Kshs180 million.

(c) The amount collected from the disposal of the assets of Continental Credit Finance Ltd. is Kshs597,174,486.60, and the amount collected on account of Continental Bank Ltd. is Kshs76,726,982.70, making a total of Kshs673,901,469.30. These amounts do not meet the total liabilities of the two institutions.

Mr. Maore: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, having confirmed the sale of the building by the Official Receiver,

can the Attorney-General who happens to be the boss of the Official Receiver explain why, after valuing the building for Kshs180 million, the same building was sold to one of the friendly Asian companies for Kshs225 million and then, with full knowledge of the same Attorney-General, it was valued again at Kshs330 million and sold to the National Assembly for Kshs455 million? What arrangement is the Attorney-General having to make sure the difference from the valuations is refunded to the public?

(Applause)

Mr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my office deals with the sale by the Official Receiver to the third party. When the sale took place, as I explained, the valuation that we had from the two valuations; the Government valuer and Milligan and Company was Kshs180 million. That valuation was supposed to guide the Official Receiver when advertising the property for sale. The property was then duly advertised for sale, as at that time, in all the three newspapers and five firms submitted their bids. Now, of these five firms, one was the Express National Housing Corporation who put their bid for Kshs555,999,995. The bid went to them, but they failed to honour it after they had been given a lot of time to pay that amount of money to the Official Receiver. It then went to the next highest bidder who was Archways Holdings Ltd who had bid for Kshs225,275,000. Then after that was Peri Investment Ltd., Kshs221 million; Modal(?) Code Ltd., Kshs200 million, and the Imperial Finance Ltd., Kshs160 million. So, as far as my office is concerned, we did get value for money because it was sold to the next highest bidder who was Archways Holdings Ltd., for Kshs225 million.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I believe we are dealing with the second sale now which is a sale from Archways Holdings Ltd. to the National Assembly. I seek your guidance here, whether I can touch on that because, whereas I have jurisdiction over the Judiciary in answering Questions here, I may not have the mandate to answer Questions on behalf of the National Assembly? This matter is in the hands of the Speaker's Committee. **Mr. Maore:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Attorney-General has the information on the sale of the building to Parliament, and he cannot say it was the second sale. The Archways Holdings Ltd did not actually pay the money he is talking about because they wanted the Official Receiver to give the building in vacant possession and they were not able to. So, they paid the 10 per cent and they were waiting for Parliament to pay them so that they can use that money to pay the balance.

Mr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can confirm that the amount of Kshs225 million was paid and that is why in my answer I stated that the Official Receiver has received the total amount of Kshs673 million not only from this sale, but from sale of other properties.

Prof. Mzee: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Attorney-General is the chief legal adviser of the Government. The Government knew very well that it wanted to purchase the Continental Building, but why did he not advise it from the beginning to buy it? Why did they have to go through all these processes? This Government is known to steal money for the purpose of this nature. He is the Chief Legal Adviser of the Government and cannot refuse to answer this Question.

Mr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not refusing to answer the Question. All I am saying is that, as far as the Official Receiver's sale to Archways Holdings Ltd is concerned, all regulations and procedures were followed. The properties were duly advertised for sale and anybody interested could have come up and put in a bid for the purchase of the property.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to ask a supplementary question to the Attorney-General because the question of privatisation in this country has gone haywire. We in this House have asked the Attorney-General to bring to the House a Bill that would legalise and put right the method to be used by the Government to privatise enterprises. Here is a clean case of what I was saying earlier, the Government sets a reserve price of Kshs180 million. That is a plan. They know fully well that the value of that property is way above Kshs180 million. Somebody comes and bids Kshs555 million---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The valuation was Kshs180 million, but the value was well above that?

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, somebody comes and values it at Kshs500 million. That is just a trick made by somebody who bought it at Kshs225 million, having made very good arrangements with people in the Government and they should name themselves. Then, the National Assembly is waiting to come and pay this Asian who paid Kshs225 million, Kshs450 million, which is nearer the real value of the property. We cannot be treated to this kind of thing. In the Public Investments Committee, we did point out to the Attorney-General some of the anomalies and now it is going on under our very noses. A property is being bought from a private enterprise by somebody who is quasi private, when he knows fully well that he is going to off-load that property back to the public and the public is going to pay twice the amount of money that he has paid. This in short, is corruption!

The Attorney-General (Mr. Wako): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that was a comment. What I can say is that this property was widely advertised and people put in their bids. As far as the Official Receiver is concerned, as at that time, the bid was higher than the valuation and it was duly sold.

Mr. Maore: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, having known the value of the building when it was disposed of to Mr. Ajay Shah and the value at which the National Assembly is likely to pay, and the Attorney-General has always been saying that he wants sufficient evidence before he can investigate incidents of corruption, could he call upon the Office of the Controller and Auditor-General to do a special audit on this transaction before the public loses money?

Mr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when it comes to matters of the National Assembly, I will stand guided by the Speaker's Committee which is seized with this matter, and it is in the process of finalising an agreement to purchase that property.

Mr. P.N. Ndwiga: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I think the Attorney-General has said for the third time that the matter of the National Assembly about the purchase of the property is before the Speaker's Committee. It looks like the hon. Questioner deliberately, or by mistake, failed to ask his Question in such a manner as to include the inquiry about the role of the National Assembly. Why do you not refer the matter to the Speaker's Committee, which is supposed to be dealing with it?

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Attorney-General to mislead the House about the stage which this matter has reached, when it is in his knowledge that the Official Receiver and the Clerk to the National Assembly of Kenya, one Mr. Masya, are involved in the conveyancing between Archways Limited and the National Assembly, a matter in which the National Assembly is losing money?

Mr. Wako: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is not within my knowledge.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. In view of the importance and the sensitivity of this matter, in the first place that land was grabbed by the people who owned that building, because it was supposed to belong to the National Assembly. In the second place, when we were selling this property to the private enterprise, we knew that the National Assembly was queuing for that land. Now, we are told that the National Assembly is trying to acquire it and there is a cloud hanging over it. I do not think we can afford to have this Parliament under that kind of cloud. Can the Chair guide us as to how this matter can be clarified as soon as possible, so that the image of the National Assembly is not injured?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Member! The guidance I can give is that hon. Members should take it up with the Speaker's Committee, where all the parties in this House are represented.

Let us go to Question One by Private Notice!

I did get some communication from hon. Otieno Karan that he will be unable to arrive here this afternoon to ask his Question and I am satisfied by the reasons which have made him unable to attend this Session. Therefore, the Question will be deferred.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. But there was a Question which was stood over?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there a Question which was stood over? I sincerely apologise for that oversight. Question No.407 for the second time.

Question No. 407

DISMISSAL OF ASSISTANT CHIEFS

Mr. Ojode is not here and so the Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

SECURITY OF SCHOOL PUPILS

(Mr. Karan) to ask the Minister for Education the following Question by Private Notice:-

- (a) Is the Minister aware that Miss Rose Awino Omondi of Standard Three and Miss Nivia Atieno Owiti of Standard Four at Kanyateng' Primary School suffered serious injuries as a result of road accident at 9.30 a.m. on 23rd June, 1997 near Urudi Market in Lower Nyakach Division?

(b) Is he further aware that the lives of the young pupils in our schools is at risk due to exposure on roads by teachers at the demand of politicians?

(c) What led to these young pupils being out of school at the time when they were supposed to be in class and what are their current conditions?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Karan had informed me that due to pressing issues that he has to attend to, he will be able to ask his Question this afternoon. The Question will therefore be deferred.

(Question deferred)

SELECTION OF CRAFTSMANSHIP TRAINEES

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

(a) How many craftsmanship trainees were taken during the recent Kenya Power and Lighting Company College recruitment?

(b) Could the Minister give the break-down of the trainees per district?

(c) Why was the letter of offer for Mr. Joseph Silayah to attend this course retracted and cancelled at the last minute?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there anybody from the Ministry of Energy? The Question is deferred.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Farah: On a point of order, Mr.

[Mr. Farah]

Deputy Speaker, Sir. You have said time and again from the Chair that Ministers should take the business in the House seriously. This is a Question by Private Notice and it is supposed to be answered within 48 hours. It is a very serious Question. Can we have your ruling that this Question should be listed on the Order Paper tomorrow in the morning and information conveyed to the Ministry?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I fully share your sentiments about the seriousness with which Ministers should take Questions by Private Notice and as usual, I direct that Question should be put on the Order Paper at the earliest possible time, taking into account the fact that it is a Private Member's Question.

ADMISSION OF PATIENTS IN KERUGOYA HOSPITAL

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

(a) Is he aware that patients at Kerugoya District Hospital suffering from infectious diseases namely: Tuberculosis, typhoid and AIDS are all admitted in one ward together with patients suffering from non-infectious diseases?

(b) What urgent measures will the Minister take to separate these patients in order to prevent the spread of these diseases to the other patients?

The Minister for Health (Gen. Mulinge): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

Tuberculosis patients are not sharing wards with other patients with non-infectious diseases at Kerugoya District Hospital. TB patients are admitted to a TB ward, while patients with other infectious diseases like typhoid and AIDS are admitted in the general medical wards. The Ministry of Health does not advocate for isolation of patients with such infectious diseases as AIDS and typhoid, since these diseases are not transmitted through the air and thus do not pose a danger to other patients.

Mr. Mbu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, sometimes we get worried of the answers given by this Minister. We do not ask questions here for the sake of asking them. Kerugoya District Hospital is just four miles away from my home. I have cross-checked my facts and in ward four, we have got TB patients and yet, this is a general ward. The nurses there are complaining about this mixture. Could you take time and send one of your officers, rather than relying on information from the source and get the actual information? Kerugoya District Hospital has been turned into a death chamber. Can you make a visit there?

Gen. Mulinge: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if it is true that TB patients are mixed with other patients, I will

make it a point of either sending an officer there or going there myself. It is normal practice to admit TB patients in isolation wards. They are not mixed with patients suffering from non-infectious diseases.

Mr. Mbui: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister should not use the word "if". His officers are not doing their job properly. Here they have misled the Minister, which is actually a shame. I have said that a Mr. Munyi, who is suffering from TB, is admitted in a ward with patients suffering from non-infectious diseases. There is nothing like a TB ward in Kerugoya District Hospital. Mental patients are even admitted in maternity wards. The hospital is in a pathetic condition. As I have told the Minister, it is a death chamber and no longer a hospital. Could he make a point of sending to this hospital one of his trusted men, who is ready to work, to go and check what is happening in it? The hospital's operations are paralysed!

Gen. Mulinge: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know what the hon. Member is trying to do. I have already accepted to send somebody to the hospital. He has repeated his question.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think we have a problem in this House. The other week, we had a Question here on malaria and the Minister was misled by his field officers. When he and I went to Kisii and Nyamira Districts, he found out that what he had been told was not true. Here again is a case where the Minister has been misled. He said that he will send an officer to Kerugoya District Hospital. The people in this hospital are listening to what he is saying, and by the time his officer gets there the situation will have changed. Are we going to proceed in this way? Can we not have correct answers in the first place? How can this House operate like this?

Gen. Mulinge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not said that I was misled by my officers. I have said that TB patients should not be mixed with patients suffering from non-infectious diseases. If it is true that they are mixed, I will send somebody to Kerugoya to confirm this.

Mr. Mbui: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Minister tell us when he will send his officers there so that I may wait for them?

Gen. Mulinge: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will do it in the course of this week.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

MEASURES TO COMBAT MALARIA OUT-BREAK

The Minister for Health (Gen. Mulinge): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mulinge, is your Ministerial Statement very long?

The Minister for Health (Gen. Mulinge): No, it is not.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I will give you two to three minutes.

The Minister for Health (Gen. Mulinge): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last week I promised to give the House a Ministerial Statement on the highland malaria situation in the affected districts. There have recently been many reports in the mass media regarding malaria in some of our districts, especially those in highland areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the House that it is true that we have been having increased cases of malaria in parts of Nyanza, Western and Rift Valley Provinces. This is not unusual during this time of the year. However, the problem has been more pronounced this year because of the heavy rains which came after a long spell of drought in the affected areas. This led to an increase in mosquito breeding sites. The most affected districts are Kisii, Nyamira and Gucha in Nyanza Province and Nandi, Uasin Gishu, Trans Nzoia, Kericho, West Pokot, Samburu and Trans Mara in the Rift Valley Province. Kakamega District in Western Province has also been affected.

I wish to assure the House that my Ministry has taken concrete measures to address the situation as follows: Drugs and laboratory requirements have been distributed in sufficient amounts to all health facilities. In addition, the Ministry has availed other drugs that are more effective against mosquito resistant strains of malaria. The public is being encouraged to seek early medical attention at the onset of any signs or symptoms of malaria in order to minimise the severity of infection. The Ministry has intensified its health education campaign to communities to undertake stricter control measures. These include draining of stagnant water, cutting of grass and bushes around homesteads and promoting the use of mosquito nets. Following these efforts, I am happy to report that the malaria outbreak has been largely contained.

I would also like to inform hon. Members that the Ministry, through the malaria control programme, has long-term measures, including public awareness campaigns in the malaria prone zones. The Ministry will also ensure that the communities concerned will continue to have access to anti-malaria drugs. The Ministry, in collaboration with other research institutions, will conduct operational research on the identification, transmission, and management of the ever emerging new strains of malaria.

Finally, I wish to appeal to all Kenyans to go for treatment immediately they notice the slightest signs of malaria. Malaria is a killer disease that must not be taken lightly. No Kenyan should rely on across-the counter drugs, as these will only suppress the symptoms but will not effectively treat malaria. Wananchi are advised to go to the nearest Government health facility or properly registered health institutions manned by qualified doctors.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Minister, if it is too long you will have to table it.

The Minister for Health (Gen. Mulinge): The medical officers of health (MOHs) are fully prepared to meet this challenge now and in the future. We can only succeed if we receive early warning or if those affected report to us immediately. I have a long list of beds and deaths. I will lay it on the Table.

(Gen. Mulinge laid the list on the Table)

POINTS OF ORDER

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT SOUGHT:
FATE OF TRANSIT GOODS TO BURUDI

Mr. Farah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did seek to have a Ministerial Statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation on the plight of our truckers and oil traders who trade with Burundi, but the Minister has assured me that he has done something about it. He has promised to give a Ministerial Statement on Thursday.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT SOUGHT:
RELEASE OF MR. APINY ADHIAMBO

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order to request the Attorney-General, in the name of humanitarianism, to make a categorical statement to this House on when Mr. Apiny Adhiambo will be released. This matter is causing a lot of agony to the mother. At the moment, the mother is in Naivasha. She went there to try and get her son. She thinks her son can be released at any minute and she is going from one prison to another looking for him. It would be very good for the Attorney-General to tell the House exactly when Adhiambo will be released so that the mother can rest assured and in peace.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

*(Order for Committee read
being 9th Allotted Day)*

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 4 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
International Co-operation

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Intentional Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair. I seek the indulgence of the House to present the budget of my Ministry for the 1997/98 financial year.

The Ministry has a primary responsibility of defending the interests of our country in its interaction with the outside world in the most effective way possible and in a spirit of sharing international solidarity. In this respect, the Ministry is guided by Kenyan foreign policy which is based upon internationally recognized principles---

(Hon. Members consulted loudly)

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Members are consulting so loudly that we cannot hear what the Minister is saying. **Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Will those hon. Members who want to leave do so quietly.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): Mr. Deputy Speaker,

Sir, the Ministry has a primary responsibility of defending the interests of our country in its interaction with the outside world in the most effective way possible and in a spirit of sharing international solidarity. In this respect, the Ministry is guided by Kenya's foreign policy which is based upon internationally recognized principles and norms including good neighbourliness, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, peaceful co-existence, presentation and promotion of security and peace, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity of other states, non-alignment, regional economic co-operation, adherence to the UN, OAU and the Commonwealth charters amongst others. In order to translate these principles into reality, Kenya has been actively involved in regional and global peace initiatives. Kenya has also been instrumental in the revitalization of IGAD and it is committed to East African Co-operation. Kenya is current chairman of both organizations.

I wish to pay special tribute to the role played by His Excellency the President, Daniel Toroitich Arap Moi, in regional peacemaking, particularly in places like Mozambique, Sudan, Somalia and more recently in the Great Lakes Region. In order to effectively carry out this task, the Kenya Government has established 34 resident diplomatic missions abroad, headed by ambassadors and high commissioners in Africa, Europe, North America, Middle East and Asia as follows:- In Africa, there are established missions in Cairo, Addis Ababa, Lagos, Kinshasha, Khartoum, Lusaka, Harare, Dar es Salaam, Kampala, Windhoek and Pretoria. In Europe we have resident missions in London, Paris, Bonn, Stockholm, Brussels, Moscow, Geneva, The Hague, Rome and Vienna. In North America, there are three missions in Washington DC, New York and Ottawa. In the Middle East, we have Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, Teheran, and Tel Aviv. In Asia, we have New Delhi, Islamabad, Tokyo, Beijing, Canberra and more recently in Kuala Lumpur. The Minister has two permanent missions in Nairobi accredited to the United Nations Environment Programme and Habitat. Representation abroad has significantly shifted emphasis from traditional diplomacy to commercial interests. Consequently, the Government attaches great importance to membership in various international and regional organizations such as the United Nations Organization and its affiliate regional organizations including the Non-aligned Movement, the OAU, ACPE, European Union, COMESA, IGAD and East African Co-operation. Kenya has been elected to serve as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for a two-year term and has recently signed the Nairobi Chapter of the Non-aligned Movement.

In order to achieve Kenya's foreign policy objectives, this Ministry requires adequate financial resources. The Ministry's budget is divided into Recurrent Vote, R4 and the Development Vote, D.4. The Recurrent Vote is divided into three Sub-Votes. There is Sub-Vote 040 - General Administration and Planning with only one Head, that is, Head 043. There is also Sub-Vote 041 - Headquarters Services, Diplomatic Representation with 36 missions, that is, 34 Kenya missions abroad plus two permanent missions to UNEP and Habitat in Nairobi. Lastly, there is Sub-Vote 042 - International Organizations, to provide for Kenya's contribution to international organizations.

The Ministry's assessed needs as presented to Treasury in the draft Recurrent Estimates, R.04, for 1997/98 financial year amount to K£120,746,560 as provided for in the following breakdown. Ministry's Headquarters Services - K£18,050,857, Diplomatic Representation - K£98,925,703 and Contribution to International organizations - K£3,777,000.

Printed net Recurrent Estimates of expenditure for 1997/98 show that the Ministry has been allocated a total of K£105,973,940 as follows: Ministry's Headquarters Services - K£16,230,691, Diplomatic Representation - K£86,412,219 and Contribution to international organizations - K£3,331,030. Although this allocation gives us a shortfall of about K£14,772,640, my Ministry will endeavour to apply strict austerity measures while at the same time ensure that the Ministry's operations will not grind to a halt.

Apart from expenditure requirements at the headquarters, my Ministry's budgetary needs include salaries for locally engaged staff abroad, foreign service allowance and school fees for children of home-based staff, payment of rent for chancellors and staff houses, payment of health insurance for home-based and locally engaged staff and payment of utility fees, electricity, conservancy and water charges.

The Ministry further requires funds to meet its contributions and pledges to international organizations named above. It is worthwhile to note the peculiarity of my Ministry as most of the factors affecting its expenditure are totally outside the Ministry's control, the most crucial being the fluctuating rate of the exchange rate between the Kenya shillings and the hard currency. For example, when the Budget was prepared, the exchange rate was Kshs54 to the dollar. The situation has since changed and today the quoted exchange rate by the Central Bank of Kenya - and I stand to be corrected - is Kshs61 to the dollar, representing a depreciation of 13 per cent of the Kenya shillings. This fluctuation causes a constant disparity between the Ministry's budget proposal, Treasury allocation and actual expenditure. Extreme weather conditions also mean high expenditure on heating and cooling charges. It is, therefore, important that proposals for fixed costs namely; foreign service allowance, local staff salaries and house rent be always provided for in full to ensure adequate provision of funds to Kenya missions to enable them to achieve the set goals.

Under Vote D.04, my Ministry's Development Vote has two Sub-Votes, Sub-Vote 040 - General Administration and Planning, to cater for headquarters services and Sub-Vote 041 - Diplomatic Representation, to

cater for Kenya missions abroad. My Ministry's development projects during the 1997/98 financial year are mainly to acquire properties abroad. The Ministry will endeavour to continue acquiring such properties as it has proved to be cheaper than paying rent for residential and non-residential accommodation. During the 1997/98 financial year, my Ministry's development projects would be as follows:- Construction of the Chancery in Abuja, construction of non-residential buildings in Islamabad; furniture and security equipment, radio network at the Headquarters; and fourthly, purchase of sufficient spare parts to service the security equipment. My Ministry, therefore, requires sufficient funds to be voted for by Parliament in order to ensure a strong diplomatic representation abroad so that we may achieve the objective set out at the beginning of my presentation. It is for this reason that the approval of the House is sought for the gross expenditure of K£135,455,040 to be spent by the Ministry, of which K£126,392,440 will be Recurrent Expenditure and K£9,062,600 for Development Expenditure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Masinde): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to second this Motion. First, I want to congratulate His Excellency the President for the efforts he has made to bring peace in this part of the continent, especially around the Great Lakes region.

This is a very important Ministry because it serves as a "window" for Kenya, where Kenya should be viewed the way it is and what it does. Also, at the same time, Kenya should be able to view what other countries, both friendly and non-friendly, are doing. In this respect, we know that His Excellency the President tries to appoint persons who he thinks are the best to represent this country. In the respect, we also expect that those who have been appointed by His Excellency the President to hold these ambassadorial positions, will represent this country effectively and in a manner that is representative to the people of this country. We, therefore, feel that persons so appointed should be able to consult constantly both with the Office of the President and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. It is, therefore, most regrettable that what happened recently, if it is true that it really happened, to hear that an Ambassador in one of the friendly countries went to brief a session in the USA Congress using information that he had not verified with the Government. If that is true, I hope the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation will ask for an explanation from the officer concerned.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyan representatives in the foreign countries are also supposed to look after the welfare of Kenyan citizens residing in those countries. Recently, we were treated to a drama when a tape containing complaints of mistreatment from some Kenyans working in one of the Middle East countries was laid on the Table of the House. Again, I cannot comment much on that because the tape was not played here. However, if it is true, and I assume and hope that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation has listened to this tape and counter-checked the complaints found therein. It is important that the Kenyan representative in that country should have been in touch with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to be fully informed and kept abreast of what is happening to the Kenyan nationals in those countries.

The fact that we have Ambassadors and High Commissioners in these foreign countries means that they should not only look at what is happening there and communicate it here, but they have also to look at the welfare of Kenyans residing in those foreign countries. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate those few officers who take up their job very seriously and, also, look after the welfare of Kenyans residing in the countries they are accredited to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, most of our people who go outside the country, go there to do their own businesses or to look for employment, in view of the fact that we have an unemployment crisis here. We expect that while we are trying to establish foreign employment policy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation and its missions should help Kenyans to solicit for the possible jobs that are there and also, it should look after the welfare of Kenyans residing there so that they do not fall into problems just because we do not have representatives or we have representatives who do not care about Kenyans residing in those countries.

The Ministry of Labour and other Ministries may not have sufficient personnel to assist Kenyans get these jobs, but we know that there are countries that are willing to import manpower from Kenya, but they do not know how to go about it. For example, recently, I had a visitor from Jordan who wanted to discuss with us on how they can get manpower from Kenya to work there. I believe that this action should be spearheaded by Kenyan representatives residing in those countries so as to help their fellow Kenyans here get employment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also important that our Ambassadors and High Commissioners in foreign missions should sell Kenya in all aspects, according to the Ministries that we have here, such as the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, and public relations, trade and so on. They should be at the forefront to defend Kenya and clarify the Kenya policy in their various missions. That is why it is important that the House should approve the money for the Ministry so that the Minister can run the Ministry properly. But at the same time, in his request for the money, he has mentioned that most of the money would go into Recurrent Expenditure, salaries, purchasing furniture,

renovation of buildings and so on. It is, therefore, clear that we are interested to make our people feel comfortable wherever they are in the missions, but they should also give their service and loyalty to Kenya.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has requested for money for renovation of buildings abroad. I want to congratulate him because quite a number of our missions have bought their own property. It is better to renovate our own buildings in those embassies rather than to continue renovating hired premises. I would, therefore, urge the Minister that whatever savings can be made, he should put up a specific request to purchase premises for our staff wherever we have embassies. This will save us a great deal in that respect.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are two embassies which are very busy. These are the ones in London and in Geneva. These embassies are very busy in that they serve as a crossroads. People travelling from Kenya to the United States of America (USA) normally pass through London. They are met and assisted by our crew there. This goes for our embassy in Geneva too, since it is a sort of transit station. I have personal experience about how busy these embassies are. They should get extra staff in order to avoid overworking those who are there. In this way, they can help the travellers and brief them on what is going on there before they travel. This will eliminate instances where our officers in transit go to the airports and find that there is nobody waiting for them, because our embassy staff lack transport to run to the airport and meet or brief the visitors.

With those few remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Obwocha: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have not contributed to any of the votes in this House, and I do not know why my colleagues are complaining.

First of all, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation should do one thing to improve this Ministry. In budgeting for our missions abroad, he has just said that they use the current rates. He knows that these rates of exchange keep on fluctuating month after month, depending on whether the Government is falling or not.

What the Minister should do - and we have proposed this in the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) when I was there - that the Ministry should budget using a fixed rate. Then, it should have an account called Gains and Losses of Exchange Rates, so that it can take care of any gains or losses in the event of these fluctuations. But this does not seem to be happening, and technocrats in this Ministry are not taking this issue very seriously.

We can see what is happening. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have cancelled their aid to Kenya. We wish to congratulate them for doing that. But the Minister, instead of going around the world capitals doing diplomacy, he should be bold enough and tell the President and the Government that they need to change now for the better of this country. He is always out and he knows what these people are saying. He is a very articulate Minister and for goodness sake, he should tell the Government to change now. It is so sad that when I came from Kisii yesterday, there were 18 police roadblocks up to Nairobi. This is a police state.

I would also like to request the Minister, who has spread missions with ambassadors abroad, to amalgamate some of them, bearing in mind the kind of situation in which we are. For example, we should have one embassy representing South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Namibia, and then have consulates in other countries. This will reduce the expenditure in some of these places. We should have one embassy representing India, Pakistani and Sri Lanka. What the hell are we having all these ambassadors for, and we know the kind of expenditure we are incurring?

What surprises me is, looking at the Ministry's Vote, the Minister has requested Kshs90 million for expenses for Presidential visits abroad. They bought a Presidential jet, and this is the portion that took most of the money from the Budget. Surely, why do you need Kshs90 million in the Budget?

An hon. Member: To fuel!

Mr. Obwocha: The fuel cannot cost that much! I would also like to touch on the issue of commercial attaches. As you know, there are several commercial attaches who come under this Ministry, but overall, they are from various Ministries. The Minister needs to harmonise this issue. Indeed, if the Ministry needs these commercial attaches - and I think the country needs them abroad - they should be paid from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Their budget should be in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation so that the Minister does not go round asking other Ministries to give it money as reimbursement, and yet all the Ministries serve the same Government. So, I am appealing to the Minister to harmonise the expenditure on the commercial attaches in our various missions.

I would also like the Minister in his reply, to give an explanation concerning our missions in Brussels and The Hague. If my memory serves me well, there used to be an ambassador at The Hague, who arrogated himself the power to purchase a building. In fact, the place is still there. When I looked at the Vote of the Ministry, they have requested for residential expenses of K£505,265 and further non-residential expenses of K£523,200. This means that we are paying for houses that we still own. I would like the Minister to tell us why there is such a situation.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

The second last issue which I would like to raise concerns the position of Members of Parliament. We had a trip to the USA, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand. The Chair knows that some of us were extremely embarrassed at the airports. When we presented our usual passports, we were told that we are not Members of Parliament; that we are fake fellows. How can hon. Obwocha be a fake fellow, and you know that I am the Member of Parliament for West Mugirango? Can Members of Parliament be provided with diplomatic passports? Are we thieves in this country? What are we? We are hon. Members who are elected to this House by the people of Kenya. When we go out, we go to represent them. We were on Parliamentary business and we were representing this country. What is the fuss about the Government providing diplomatic passports to Members of Parliament? Can the Minister tell us what the problem is?

Finally, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that if the Minister and his staff want to be taken seriously by this country - he has stated here the Kenyan foreign policy - for goodness sake, he should stick to that policy. For example, there is no point of holding peace talks here when the country is at war.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not talking. And Friday is going to be a terrible day. I can tell him that it is going to be hell.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Just to seek your guidance, the hon. Member has made a very serious allegation, that this country is at war. Could he substantiate?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Obwocha, which war are you talking about?

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know we are not at war with any country like Sudan or so; we are at war with ourselves. Our Government is facilitating talks between neighbouring countries which are at war and yet, we need this peace more than anybody else. The first people who need this peace before we go out to broker any peace are ourselves. Therefore, the authorities should be told clearly that we need that peace here first before they go out. This issue of calling the churches this day, the next day calling hon. Wamalwa alone and the next day, the NCEC, is not acceptable. He should call the movement called Opposition, which includes political parties so that we can put the agenda on the table which we have already done. The issue of the Head of Civil Service writing to us as if we are non entities--- Very soon, that man is going to find himself out of Harambee House. He is going to find himself without a job. He should advise President Moi to take the Opposition of this country seriously. We need peace and there is no point of sending our young, intelligent and articulate Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation Minister outside to do nothing, when we need the services of those people here.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Kiliku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting this Ministry's Vote, I would like the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to know that students from this country in foreign universities get frustrated but the Ministry and foreign missions do not take any action. It is only last year when I went to Bombay, presently Mumbai, and found students in India frustrated. Why can the Ministry not have a clear-cut policy on how to protect students who are in foreign universities?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether it is a foreign policy of this country to support dictators. For example, when Siad Barre was ousted, he was accommodated in this country by this Government. He was fully paid for ultra-modern accommodation. It is against the wishes of the people of this country for a dictator who has been thrown out by his people, to be given accommodation in the country. When Habyarimana was alive, he was given 1,000 acres of land in my constituency, displacing 5,000 people. I do not know whether that is part of Kenya's foreign policy.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I hate to disorientate the hon. Member, but it will be really useful if he could substantiate the very serious allegation that the late Habyarimana was given 1,000 acres of land in Changamwe.

Mr. Kiliku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I brought the question to this House, and I can substantiate later and even the Minister for Lands knows. I will bring all the documents to the effect that the late Habyarimana was given 1,000 acres in my constituency and displaced almost everybody. When I went to the DC, I was told that, that was given by another Government and therefore, I kept quiet. I know it is the late Habyarimana who taught Kenyans how to bring tribal clashes in this country. He was the teacher.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International-Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of

information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It is important really, to get facts right. It is actually the case, that the late Habyarimana was a business colleague of the leader of one of the Opposition parties. So, I think it is proper to lay the blame where it is. I know the hon. Kenneth Matiba would not contradict this, because he is on record as saying that they were family friends and business colleagues. So, why blame the Government for things that you cannot substantiate?

Mr. Nthenge: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could it be clarified whether it is hon. Matiba who gave out the 1,000 acres of land or the Government?

Mr. Kiliku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Minister cannot clarify that one. The late Habyarimana was given this plot by the Government. However, I do not want to dwell so much on that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the international co-operation of this country is not good and that is why the International Monetary Fund has decided to discontinue extending loan facilities to this country. This is because of corruption. We now have secret clubs for all the corrupt people of this country. That club gets its membership from a senior Government official, senior civil servants and unscrupulous business people. We do not have to blame the Opposition for the IMF action. It is because of the corruption of this country and nothing else. The International Monetary Fund does not want to play politics with the country, they want to do business with you and not politics. It is because of the mistakes done by this country that these facilities are being discontinued. It is very shameful that when we are looking for Kshs12.5 billion---

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It is important really as I come to reply to get correct facts. I am a bit amazed that Changamwe being an urban constituency that really - because he is fond of talking about corruption - there would be 1,000 acres set aside, perhaps only for purposes of production and export. I would want the hon. Member to provide evidence that the Government gave the late Habyarimana 1,000 acres in Changamwe.

Mr. Kiliku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will bring the papers to that effect, provided when I bring the papers---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Kiliku, can we have the LR Number of the late Habyarimana?

Mr. Kiliku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will bring it here on Tuesday.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Do you have it now?

Mr. Kiliku: Not now. I will bring it next week.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, therefore, it is good for this country---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Kiliku! Tomorrow afternoon before we go to the Committee Stage---

Mr. Ndicho: But they are in Mombasa!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Ndicho! I do not know whether you are hon. Kiliku's tutor. Tomorrow afternoon before we go to the Committee Stage, I want the LR Number of the late Habyarimana tabled. If it is not there, we shall expunge that from the records.

Mr. Kiliku: Yes, I will bring it to substantiate what I said, that it is the late Habyarimana who was given the plot in Miritini.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is better for this country to know that the action taken by the IMF is because of the corruption of this Government and these are the signs of a collapsing Government. In 1976 when the IMF stopped their loan facilities to Jamaica, it collapsed. Therefore, this is the type of a collapsing Government. I would like the Government to take action.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like the Government to take action on that. The Bill which is going to be brought into this House must be back-dated in order to arrest those who have been engaging in corruption in this country.

Before I finish, we are discussing issues concerning the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Corporation and we want to know why the co-operation between the Minister and his Permanent Secretary is not good because we as Kenyans know that the Permanent Secretary cannot take over the duties of a Minister. When we have international conferences where we expect the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to go and represent this country on foreign policy matters, it is the Permanent Secretary who represents the country and not the Minister. That is wrong!

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member really in order to personalise some of these matters? I also want to draw his attention to the fact that, when my Permanent Secretary travelled recently to the United States and the United Kingdom, she did so as a special envoy of His Excellency the President.

Mr. Kiliku: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am acting on the information availed to me; that this lady is the one who is running the Ministry, not the Minister.

I beg to support.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): You are out of order!

Mr. Mwaura: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Mwaura, when I say "order", you should resume your seat!

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Your point of order can only relate to what hon. Kiliku has been saying. He is now seated; he is not on his feet any more. So, I cannot allow a point of order on it. The Minister will reply. You can rise on as many points of order as you can.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Ndicho! I have not given you the Floor! When the Minister stands to reply, you can interrupt him with as many points of order as you wish. Carry on, hon. Mwaura.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. This is exactly what we are asking you to do. He is interrupting our contribution.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! The Minister, like anybody else, is entitled to stand on a point of order.

Mr. Ndicho: But he should be taking notes!

Mr. Mwaura: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this very important Vote of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. When the Minister was moving his Vote, among the things he indicated was the fact that his Ministry has a leading role in defending the interests of this country in the outside world, to make sure that there is mutual interaction between us and other governments in the world. I am sure that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is aware that, since the end of the Cold War, not only has our foreign policy changed, but the global foreign policy at present has had to be transformed. As a country, I believe that, our immediate concern is how we shall continue to have good governance. Observation of human rights, good governance and proper democratisation are some of the issues that guide global politics. These are the issues that our foreign policy today must really address itself to, if we are going to sustain and help this country to gain access to the international market.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation did mention that, among other things, this country is a member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). But I would have thought that with the end of the Cold War, the role of the NAM would diminish because the world is no longer at war. The NAM came about as a result of the ideological differences between the East and the West. Therefore, I think, our efforts at the present time, should be aimed at helping this country to gain markets overseas and attract bilateral aid. We shall not be able to do these things unless we have good governance and respect of human rights in our own country. These are factors that are going to help this country.

The other issue which I think our ambassadors need to take note of is this country's image abroad. I think that a good ambassador is the one who will be able to tell our country exactly what the Parliaments and the Press of those countries are saying about Kenya and not what the Kenya Government ought to hear. This way we shall help this country quite a lot.

I do agree with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation that at the present time, the fluctuation of the currency has affected our diplomats and I would urge that, at no time should we allow our diplomats overseas to suffer because they cannot afford to meet the cost of living in those countries. One of the very bad things that a country can do is to allow its diplomats to suffer. I know for many years that diplomats from countries like the former Zaire and Togo could stay without salaries for about five months. There is nothing worse than making your diplomats suffer.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue that I would like to touch on is the question of acquisition of property by our embassies abroad. With regard to our mission in Nigeria, I have heard the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation saying that we intend to buy a residence there. I believe that this is a good thing because when you pay the rent in a country like Nigeria, that country requires that you have to pay rent for five years in advance. It is better for our embassy to acquire its own residence there. This will just lead to more saving than when we continue rent the houses.

Another observation is that, for many years, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

has not had an item on Kenyans abroad in its Vote. Some hon. Members here spoke about our students abroad. As I know, we do not have an item for repatriation of stranded Kenyans abroad and I believe that it is better to have an item on this issue put there because in most cases, we have Kenyans from disadvantaged families who have gone abroad and got into problems. Also, there are Kenyans who go abroad and are arrested and then they become a burden to the embassy because it cannot repatriate these Kenyans. I believe that if the Ministry was to bring into this Parliament the element of repatriation, then I think, that item would be given a sympathetic consideration.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Deputy Leader of Government Business mentioned the most embarrassing issue that has arisen in the past; the fact that our Ambassador in Washington presented to the American Senate the Bill which the Attorney-General talked about the other day. The Attorney-General told the nation that, that Bill went there by mistake. I do think that our Ambassador should be blamed because as far as I know, that Bill could not have reached our foreign office unless it went through our Diplomatic Bag. If it went through our Diplomatic Bag, the Ambassador could only present it to the Senate if there was an enclosing note telling him what he should do. Other than having made that mistake, I heard our Ambassador, on the Voice of America, making a statement to the Senate. As far as I am concerned, I must say that he came out very well in his defence of what was happening. He did not defend the Government, but talked on both sides about the changes and said that not all was good in the country, but that the Government was trying to make some changes. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation must come out clearly and tell Kenyans how this Bill that was issued by the National Convention Executive Committee landed in the hands of the Ambassador and how he took it to the Senate, unless it was forwarded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other point that I would like to thank the Government and this Ministry for is the fact that they took the responsibility of bringing the body of the late Mukaru Ng'ang'a back to Kenya. The Government footed the bill for this undertaking. This is exactly what I am trying to say. Here is a Kenyan who was the leader of a political party, who has died in a foreign country and the family is unable to bring the body back for burial. This time round, the Government did a very good thing to have brought back the body to this country.

Finally, let me say that if our image in the foreign countries has to be as good as it used to be many years ago, we must have good Ambassadors.

With these few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Wildlife (Mr. Kisiero): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me a chance to support the Motion on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. For those of us who go out once in a while, we have found our officers in the Foreign Missions abroad very useful, hard working and dedicated. They are people who should be given encouragement and assistance as much as possible. I know that, that is because they have a good Minister and good staff in Nairobi. In order to give our officers more encouragement, they should be protected as much as possible when it comes to foreign service allowance. I think at this stage, I should mention that in 1964, immediately after independence, I was a foreign service officer. So, I have some idea of the problems that confront a foreign service officer. The Government pays these foreign service officers some allowances, including foreign service allowance. But that allowance can be messed up by the fluctuations in the exchange rate because they are pegged on the Kenya Shilling. When the value of the Kenya Shilling drops, our officers abroad find themselves in very serious financial problems. This is why I would request that allowances given to our officers abroad should, if possible, be pegged on a hard currency like the dollar so that they are not unnecessarily put in financial problems because of fluctuations in the exchange rates.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to suggest that the Ministry, as far as possible, should, acquire or construct their own offices and houses for their staff. At least, the offices and houses for our Ambassadors should be constructed in a manner that agrees with our tastes so that they are convenient for our officers staying in those houses. I remember, sometimes back I went to Pretoria and saw the house of our Ambassador there which looked miserable. Definitely, it was a very old house and it was in poor shape. I was informed that half of the pool of the Ambassador's house was in another plot altogether. It is just like Lake Victoria which is shared between us, Uganda and Tanzania. It is rather strange that we should have bought a property of that type without taking into consideration whether the whole plot was ours or not. A residence of an Ambassador should be something of good taste because once in a while, our Head of State may visit the Embassy and may even receive visitors in the Ambassador's house. Therefore, the house should not be of poor standard; it should be something of good standard to project the good image of Kenya. So, I think we should be very meticulous in choosing property of good quality when buying them abroad.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our foreign service officers are expected to project a good image of Kenya. They have to explain our foreign policy, interpret our political system and tell the foreign countries in which

they represent us all about investment opportunities existing in this country, and all other matters including immigration, agriculture and so on. So, these officers should always be of very high integrity, well educated, dedicated and patriots who love their country. They should not be people who go to foreign countries and begin abusing their country. By the fact that they are appointed to go out there, they are given that trust so that they can look after the image of Kenya properly. Because our main interest is to ensure that we attract investors into this country, it is my hope that our Government, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and international co-operation and other interested Ministries, ensures that we have as many commercial attaches as possible. This is because we need investors. We need investors to come to this country. We need investments. We should enhance industrial development in this country so that our unemployed youth may be able to secure jobs. We can only do that if we have got commercial attaches in as many countries as possible so that they may be able to explain that there are opportunities existing in this country so that we may be able to attract investors to come here.

Similarly, we need immigration officers so that they can educate our foreign visitors. They together with, of course, our tourist officers, should be posted to as many embassies as possible so that they may be able to talk to tour operators and other interested parties dealing with tourism so that we can have as many tourists as possible coming to this country. This is because everybody knows that tourism is the number one foreign exchange earner in this country. Therefore, we should give tourism a very big support both financially and in any other respect so that we can be able to earn foreign exchange as much as possible.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that although our embassies abroad are doing their best to explain our policy to those countries, some of these countries do not seem to listen to them. As a matter of fact, an organisation like the International Monetary Fund which decided the other day just to cut off aid to this country has no business or moral obligation to just cut off aid that is expected to be given to this country just due to political bias. They are only doing that because they are partisan. They are supporting one view and refusing to listen to the other view. Our country is doing its best---

Mr. Busolo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could the Assistant Minister be clear in what he is trying to tell us? Which view is being listened to and which one is not being listened to? He should be specific because we want to enjoy this debate.

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Wildlife (Mr. Kisiero): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is obvious that the Opposition is using their masters abroad---

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Munyasia, he is responding to a point of order.

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Wildlife (Mr. Kisiero): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am responding to a point of order. It is clear day and night that the IMF and the other foreign donors are just listening to everything that the Opposition says. Even if it is said by a *makanga* in the streets, they believe him. They will not believe what we are saying. They should be able to listen to both sides of the coin.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to misrepresent the IMF and, therefore, mislead this House that the IMF just woke up one morning and decided to cut off aid to Kenya when he knows that the Kenya Government has been responsible for the kind of action that the IMF had to take?

The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Wildlife (Mr. Kisiero): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sure that they woke up one morning and then decided on this course of action. This is because we had been adjusting our position by ensuring that the constitutional reforms are put in place and everything is being done to justify both parts of our views in this country, but they do not seem to listen. Somehow they would wish they loved to listen to certain countries. They accept to allow Uganda to have a partyless Government whereas when it comes to Kenya, they want us to have 101 parties yet there is no reason for this state of affairs. Why is Kenya's position not being accepted and yet the whole constitutional reform programme is in place?

With those remarks, I beg to support.

(Several MPs stood up in their places)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): However anxious you are to speak, you must only stand up when you see the red light on. By standing up when the light is on, you are intimidating the Member on the Floor.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya's Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is a born-again Christian. He is a man of the Lord. We believe in certain simplistic values that some people are very good and others are bad, but if you talk to them nicely they can also become good. The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation of Kenya has never learnt how to swim with crocodiles and how to

bathe with the sharks. What happens is that they do not "consume" but they ignore him. They do not even see him. The business of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is not just to paint the country to look good abroad. The business of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is how to cultivate the national interests. In that way, the perceptions of those creating the pillars of Kenya's foreign affairs policy will be thinking about the primary priority to be given to the Great Lakes region and the primary priorities of our national interest in the Eastern African region and the great Sub-saharan Africa. If they did that, they would not celebrate the fact that people going to Uganda, Rwanda or to Congo stop in Nairobi. They would not be happy that Kenya is a battleship carrier or a place where people go to do business and come back when they want to refuel. This is because we are celebrating that we are peaceful and they can stop here and buy toilet tissues and clean water and then fly to where the action is. That facility can be availed offshore. That facility is not the business of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the management of Kenya's foreign policy was driven by the national interests, the first thing that this country would have done was to try to see how you can harmonise your uttered word and your practice in the greater cultivation of the national economic interest in this African nation where we have the most important net export of our manufactured produce in the world. Instead, we oscillate between meetings with them where we congratulate them and in meetings without them where we abuse them. We have a situation where one day we are meeting the leader of Uganda and the next day the Head of this Government is saying ungodly things about the leader of Uganda. That is a most unfortunate thing to hear from a President about a friendly country.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I hate to really interrupt the Member for Kimilili, but unless the Standing Orders of the House have changed, it cannot be really taken that a Member can use the name of the President as authority for what he says?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have learnt what the Standing Orders of this House provides and in criticising the conduct of this Government, I can criticise the conduct of this Government as articulated by the Head of this Government. I am criticising the conduct of President Moi as the Head of this Government. It is not acceptable that one day you are hosting leaders of a country and the next day you are saying that those leaders are giving weapons to Opposition elements to destabilise the country. Speak out and say where you stand and do not oscillate.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been talking about professionalism and the management of our national interests. It has upset some of us recently that we try to imitate dictators in their worst elements. This is what happens with dictators. When they are about to fall, they do not trust other nations or the structured instruments of public management and instead of strengthening security apparatus, they establish parallel security apparatus. Instead of sending their Foreign Ministers to meet dignitaries abroad, they send their sons to meet dignitaries. Mobutu was sending his son to Pretoria. All of a sudden, we have started seeing Kenya's diplomacy being spearheaded by Mark Too. In what capacity is he doing this and yet we have a Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation here? At one time, Kenya's Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation was happy to tell us in response to a matter addressed to this House, that he thanked His Excellency the President because when the President was hosting a regional summit in Eldoret, he had been so gracious as to give him some money to go and do a Harambee in his own constituency. This is cheap. How far can we---

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was beginning to follow with great interest--- The hon. Member for Kimilili, who I like listening to when he contributes on national matters, should rest assured that when His Excellency the President---

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

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): Is it in order for the hon. Member for Kimilili to again personalise issues that have long been sorted out?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hate to seem to be personalising anything, but I am saying that one of the worst crisis we are suffering in this country is the breakdown in the command structure, the abuse of professionalism by sending the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to do a Harambee for women when Heads of State are visiting the country and you are inviting people who are not even Ministers to advise them in State matters. If we had the clear view of the national interest, there is no reason why the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation should advise you about the consequences of posturing before IMF and you listen to thieves, crooks, Sajjadis, people who are refusing to pay duties---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Kituyi! You can have ten adjectives for hon. Sajjaad, but he is also protected by the Standing Orders of this House.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw. But all persons who have been involved in smuggling of sugar into Kenya without paying duty, who are being protected as if they are more important than the

taxpayers of this country, and yet they are causing problems to this country. It does not matter how much money we are going to use to buy gross space in *Time Magazine* to advertise how good Kenya can be. One shot of three minutes on CNN about the truth of what is happening in downtown Nairobi on Saba Saba Day affects international perception much more than the amount of money you are pouring down the drain.

But, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, talking about money being used abroad, there is a greater anomaly in this country. Kenya's largest foreign mission in the world is in London. Kenya has a High Commissioner in London. Kenya has four fax secretaries in its mission in London, while the House of Commons has a free agency for Kenya's public relations called the Kenya Association and so on. Yet up to this moment the Government of Kenya continues paying millions of shillings to a firm of writer Orr to do public relations work for Kenya in London. Why are we paying money to this firm when our mission is overcrowded in the area realising that it is supposed to be there doing public relations for Kenya?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will expect this Minister to tell this House, when he comes to reply, why Kenya Government is paying so much money to the affiliate Church Orr which has not even been in Kenya. Is it just because of the fact that is well-known within Kenya's Diplomat community that Patrick Orr has a personal friendship with the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation? Is that enough reason for us to continue wasting taxpayers money in London to pay Church Orr when all our personnel there are supposed to be doing the public relations for Kenya?

Mr. Busolo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Kituyi said that Mr. Patrick Orr in London has a personal relationship with the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. Could he substantiate what that personal relationship is?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did say that there is a very open explicit relationship that exists between Dr. Sally Kosgei, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, and Mr. Patrick Orr of Raitt Orr and its affiliate, Church Orr, which has offices in Nairobi. I requested the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation when he comes to reply, to tell this House if that relationship has anything to do with the fact that we are spending so much money on public relations in London?

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the hon. Member for Kimilili will do well to really respond to what hon. Busolo has said. What relationship is he talking about? We cannot have officers scandalised when they are not able to defend themselves? What relationship is he talking about?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am surprised to hear the Minister who is supposed to protect this civil servant asking me to go further and say what specific relationship exists between Sally Kosgei and Patrick Orr. But I am asking the Minister, when he replies, to tell us if there is totally no relationship between the two.

The relationship is well known to the diplomatic community in the Court of St. James, and the amount of money we are wasting paying Raitt Orr, which is a public relations firm which has been permanently hired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation when we have the largest competent capacity to do public relations through the civil servants of Kenya.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Mwaura: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not want to interrupt Dr. Kituyi, but is he referring to man to woman relationship?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Mwaura and Dr. Kituyi, this is not a moral court. I do not want to hear any of that!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to hear any of this until the Minister comes to reply and tells us about it!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my language we have a saying that "a dying cow does not hide its private parts". Americans have a slightly softer variance of the same, that "you notice the signs of a dying civilisation from the growing popularity of bad manners."

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we are supposed to project a good image of our country abroad, we should know that the information age exists in our kitchen. We still have this ancient mentality that we can see fantastic things when we go to Edinburgh and when we come to Nairobi we can afford to say the most stupid things. Those people do not say these things for domestic consumption. In order to effect de-linkage between a domestic audience and international audience, you have to disabuse yourselves from that notion. We do not want to see a situation where a Minister of Government starts attacking IMF as if it is a political party in a foreign country. We hear hon. Nassir always organising demonstrations to burn the effigy of IMF saying it hates the Nyayo Government. It is not only an embarrassing statement coming from the political leadership of the country. It is legitimising bad manners. IMF did not conduct its relationship with the Kenya Government through the media. They talk to them They chose between thieves and the State. They supported the thieves and we are all suffering.

(Applause)

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me a chance to make my contribution to this important Vote.

First of all, I want to congratulate my colleague, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation for the manner in which he presented the Vote. I am sure the message that is supposed to be put across for people to know Kenya's foreign policy has been put across.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it should be a well understood policy of any country that there is no better country than your own country. Anybody who stands up, whether in or outside his country, and abuses, criticises and says evil things about his own country, that person is not worthy being a member of that country because that is as good as committing treason against his own country. Therefore, for all of us, there ought to be no better country than Kenya. Kenya is the best country and is the only country that we can talk proudly of.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the requirement of every Kenyan is to defend this country and its policies outside. Let us differ inside the country, have as many ideas as possible on how to run this country, but let us not go outside this country and abuse our own country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish people could compare the situation of our country to that of a family where father, mother and children are supposed to defend their home, whether they are poor or rich. Outside their own home they cannot begin talking evils about members of their families, and so on. We have a duty to be ambassadors of this country every time we are outside Kenya. It does not matter what our personal feelings are towards the Government, individuals or systems.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the new diplomacy is supposed to be geared towards promotion of trade, tourism and investment. So, anybody who goes outside and talks evil about his own country is negating the interests of this country. It is worse when somebody goes outside this country and tells other people not to invest, give loans or to start discussing donor funding and other financial supports which the Kenya Government gets.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have some people who would rather lead Kenya after they have ruined it. When one has already ruined his country, what kind of leadership is one looking for?

Mr. Michuki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for a Minister of the Government to stand here and say that there are people abusing Kenya without substantiating? Could he substantiate that claim?

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I am saying has nothing to do with whether I am a full Minister or a half Minister. I know that I am a Minister and Mr. Michuki knows very well---

Mr. Michuki: I am hon. Michuki and not Mr. Michuki!

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): I thought you were honourable as well as mister. So you have ceased to be mister and now you are honourable! Okay, hon. Michuki who has ceased to be Mister Michuki--- There is no doubt that Members of the Opposition including people like, not necessarily Mr. Michuki, but people like him, have applauded what the IMF has done to this country.

(Applause from the Opposition Benches)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you can hear them applauding. Obviously, if the IMF is hurting the poor people of this country and it is supported by Members of the Opposition, then they are not better than traitors to this country and to their own people. So, I do not see what I am supposed to substantiate when it is very obvious that these are people who are dishonest to their own voters.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Minister to imply that Members from this side of the House have supported the IMF move when he knows pretty well that it was the Government that created the circumstances that led to what the IMF has done? Is he not misleading the House by trying to blame this side of the House when the blame should be on the Government side?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Is he not entitled to his opinion?

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, these are the people who are not ready to be honest with themselves. Nobody in this Government has ever defended corruption. In fact, this Government is number one in fighting against corruption and condemning corruption. This is also one of the most reform oriented countries---

Mr. Opere: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The IMF stated very categorically

why they cut aid to Kenya. It was due to existence of corruption at the highest level of Government.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Opere, that is not a point of order!

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know why they are beginning to panic when I mention the IMF. Are they defending the IMF?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Members, this is a timed debate. Can we limit those points of order to enable Members to put forward their points of view? You do not have to agree with him in that view. That is his view.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You heard this Minister refer to hon. Mak'Onyango as among people who are dishonest. Is he in order to refer to an hon. Member of this House and an honest one like hon. Mak'Onyango as among people who are dishonest?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): All hon. Members of this House, even the dishonest ones are presumed to be honest and honourable.

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, they may be honourable, but a Member who praises the IMF for making it difficult for the ordinary Kenyan to survive and a Member who has enjoyed the support of those poor voters of this country who have enabled him to come here, to go and take steps which hurt those people who have voted for him is dishonest. They are now earning a salary and yet, the other day they were objecting to the Budget Speech being presented in the House. How dishonest can anyone be to be called dishonest? These are very dishonest Members. As far as I am concerned, the IMF was supporting this Government and our moves until the Budget day. The Opposition Members were criticising the IMF for supporting this Government, but what turned them round four weeks later and the IMF now pretends that, they have noticed that there is corruption in the Government. Did they not notice that there was corruption the time they were supporting this Government? There was corruption from the day when people like Mr. Michuki were Permanent Secretaries. So, you cannot say that corruption at the just started today. None of you can stand up and claim to be holier than everybody else and say that those of us in the Government are dishonest. We are all to blame. This is our country; we must protect it and we are not going to allow---

Several Members: You are dishonest!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Members! It is dishonourable to heckle a colleague when he is on his feet. It is more dishonourable to remain on your feet when your colleague is on his feet contributing as did Mr. Ogeka and hon. Michuki. Please, maintain your cool. I will give you an opportunity to present your view.

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am amused and I am glad that I have touched a live wire---

Mr. Michuki: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for this Minister to mention my name and refer to the period I was in the Treasury as a permanent secretary and say that there was corruption? Could he prove it and then we can see whether we can increase his Kshs500 contribution to something else? We will contribute it.

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. Angatia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that hon. Michuki was at one time a Permanent Secretary. It is also a fact that he rose from a DO, an Assistant Administrative Officer to become a Permanent Secretary. Is that not corruption? So, what are you telling us? These are people who have benefited. He cannot pay Kshs500 in a Harambee because he amassed his wealth when he was a Permanent Secretary and when he was the Chairman of the Kenya Commercial Bank. How can some people become so rich? How harder did they work, than other people? Those are facts of life in this country!

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Nthenge: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation represents this country all over the world. It is such a very important Ministry that a little mistake can harm the country. It is better for the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to resign if the Government is not following the standards that he can sell to other countries. It is a big shame for the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to be told by IMF that this country does not merit financial support any more, due to corruption in the highest institutions of the Government. If we were used to resigning, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation would have resigned because he is being let down by his own colleagues in the Cabinet, if not even those higher than him.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. First of all, I just wish to recognise that the Member for Kamukunji has just turned 70 years and I congratulate him for that. But I cannot resign for the reasons that he has given. I am very proud to be in the doctrine of collective responsibility. Could he prove that there is corruption the way he is putting it?

Mr. Nthenge: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I simply said what has been public knowledge in the Press. When something has been said by an organisation in black and white, you cannot be asked to prove it further. As a lawyer, the Minister knows very well that when something is in writing, you do not require anything more. It is just a document.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am interested in efficiency. To be able to show that our country is worth any respect, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, when picking ambassadors, should pick people with good political background.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is now the practice that civil servants, who do not understand politics, are the ones who go to meet Heads of States in other countries. If I am a layman or a clerk in a lawyer's office, do I qualify to participate in a discussion between my lawyer employer and another lawyer on matters of law? How do you expect a civil servant to handle President Moi, who has been in this House for 40 years? We have to go for efficiency. When you are posted to a foreign country you go there to represent the Head of State and the whole country. Such representatives should be men and women who have a lot of political background. They should be acceptable people in their own country.

We should not look for good "yes" men. We want Kenya to be portrayed as a country which has efficient people. Where is Mr. Kaggia now? If he said that he did not want to participate in political elections, did that disqualify him from representing us in London or New York? Let us stop this cheapness. If we become cheap our country will also become cheap. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation should go for efficiency. Also secretaries and other officers in foreign countries should prove that we have qualified men in this country.

The Minister, who is a qualified lawyer, and his Assistant Ministers are qualified. It should not appear as if in this country we have a shortage of qualified personnel, when so many of our graduates are unemployed. We should not look for people who have beautiful sisters or cars. These are things which do not matter. We should go for efficiency, so that when the Minister goes to our missions abroad he is properly briefed by people who are knowledgeable, so that he does not look uninformed. Favouritism should be avoided and we should appoint people who will represent all of us and are paid from the taxpayers' money.

The point about poverty and the truth comes in again. We in this country beg for funds everyday. However, here and abroad the Government spends money as if it was the richest in the world. Sometimes we use cars which Germans cannot use even though they are the manufacturers of such cars. This is a shame. We should be honest and portray what we are. We should have one efficient ambassador to represent us in a number of countries. We should also use cars of our "size".

If you see an ambassador's house overseas you will wonder who he is and which country he comes from. This is the case despite the fact that we are begging daily. This sounds odd! We are dishonest with ourselves! We should know that the foreigners we deal with are not fools. They know us very well and know how much we are worth. They see the way we squander our money. Some of our ambassadors abroad live in houses they never lived in before they were appointed ambassadors and which they will never live in when they leave employment. We are being unrealistic instead of being realistic.

The other point is about our students abroad. If they are in recognised universities and colleges and are qualified to be there they should be treated like students from other countries. This brings me to education attaches' in our missions abroad. All of them should be well versed in educational matters, and should take interest in all our students in the country of their posting. They should be able to report regularly to this country on all students. If, due to sickness or other reason, a student cannot manage to study, for heaven's sake we should not shame our country by keeping that student in that foreign country. Such a student should be repatriated back home so that our country does not get a bad name. In this way, next time we have somebody who wants to study in that country its authorities will accept him because they know that we are serious people. If we have very many failures living in foreign countries they are giving a bad name to our country. Those who have failed in their studies because of sickness or becoming drug addicts should come back home. We should know that when one of us is abroad he is an ambassador of our country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another point is that we are a tourist country. However, sometimes we use the poorest salesmen to sell our country abroad. If you want to market our country abroad you should get the correct man or woman for that job. If tomorrow I have a case I will not ask your court clerk to represent me. I will come to either you, or hon. Musyoka or hon. Wamalwa. I will go for somebody who knows law. We should go for efficiency. I have been in business for a long time but since Independence the Ministry has never used me to market our country abroad. You will find that ordinary women who know nothing about tourism and who do not have the marketing language are the ones who go out to market our people.

Why does this happen? This is a shame! It makes it appear as if our country has no qualified people.

When hon. Musyoka speaks on foreign affairs you really feel that we have somebody in that area. We should not use people who stammer or do not have the language to market Kenya. The other day Mr. Speaker had to ask: "What can we do about inefficiency?" What somebody does abroad portrays hon. Wetangula, hon. Musyoka and everybody else negatively. It is very bad for it to appear as if we have no qualified people in our country! Even if you are told by your boss to employ an unqualified person you should resign rather than portray our country as one without qualified people.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one point on which I fully agree with hon. Nthenge is the way some educational attaches in some foreign countries treat our students. I would like, to bring this point to the notice of the hon. Minister. There are some educational attaches who do not even know how many Kenyan students are in their country of posting. I have had to witness this when you and I travelled abroad together. There were so many educational attaches in the country we went to, but when we asked to meet our students they did not know who was in which university. In order to keep good track of our Kenyans outside the country our ambassadors should know who is where in their countries of posting. This is because they are there to look after the interests of Kenyans. I think that is very crucial.

This is also good for purposes of statistics: They will help us know why Kenyans are outside their country. When I was in Sweden, I was confronted by a group of people who called themselves refugees. I met children of about 15 years of age, who said that they had been chased away by the Government. But I know that Kenya does not have political refugees, though I know of the existence of economic refugees. There are people who are going to the diaspora to earn a living. I know that because we cannot deny the fact that we are a poor country. However, it is outrageous for people to say that we have people who are out of Kenya because of politics. At least, in the past five years I have known of no person who has not been able to, or cannot, come to this country because of politics. We must credit ourselves with having repealed Section 2A of the Constitution. We must be bold enough to say that we do not have political refugees. Anyone who is going out is doing so because he wants a better life and not because of politics.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the world is changing. Commerce is taking a very important role. I think the hon. Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation should now concentrate on this question of commerce and send people who are going to be commercial attaches' so that we can participate in the global events of trade, which is now becoming more important. Our countries are not just communicative, they are also economies. We want to transform into better economies and the only way to do it is to get market for our valuable goods because we cannot be useful even if we manufacture everything if we cannot sell that everything. What we need to market more particularly apart from vital agricultural products of tea and coffee, is our tourism. Coming from an area that tourists frequent most, I want to state that I am happy that the number of tourists has been increasing. The recent events in Kenya have not occasioned any cancellations whatsoever in our tourist destinations to Kenya, but we must be able to market tourism very well. Some countries like Korea are in dire need of our tea. So, I hope that the hon. Minister will consider setting up a mission for Kenya in countries like those so that we can participate as trade partners.

Kenya has participated in the peacemaking processes within our region, particularly in Sudan, Grate Lakes and Somalia. It is not because the Kenya Government is not respected or any failure on our part that some of these efforts have not succeeded. We have had financial constraints. A good example is the question of Sudan. We do not have enough money to do what we want to do, plus the fact that this whole process is sometimes not appreciated by some countries which would like to take the credit. It is for that reason that the results have not always been what we want. In Maasai language, we say that trying is always better than succeeding. We have tried. We have put our marks on the question of peace. We have tried to contribute to it and we should be congratulated for this matter of taking part in the dispute resolutions within the region.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Wetangula) left the Chair]*

[Mr. Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair]

It is surprising that we are discussing diplomacy and I would have expected that we discuss this subject diplomatically. I am so surprised that an hon. Member can stand up and scandalise the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. The Public Accounts Committee, which in itself is dominated by the Opposition, has commended Dr. Sally Koskey for being an excellent Permanent Secretary both as an Accounting Officer and her brilliance and capabilities in handling affairs related to Kenya's foreign matters. I am so surprised that a Member of the Opposition can come back and backtrack on that record and start giving hon. Dr.

Koskey such poor marks. Dr. Koskey is not in this House to defend herself. She operates under her Minister and that should be the case. I know of no good reason why an hon. Member should come here and personalize matters. Let us discuss Kenya's foreign affairs. Let us not become petty because that is a temptation of persons who have run short of ideas. Are we out of issues? Can we not discuss this question of foreign affairs just for ten minutes without discussing a person? I think the hon. Member should be ashamed of himself and apologise to Dr. Koskey and this House for trivializing matters that much.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Sunkuli in order to begin discussing hon. Dr. Kituyi when he has left? When Dr. Kituyi was contributing here, Sunkuli was here and he did not raise any point of order.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Neither is he in order to call me Sunkuli without realising that I am also honourable like him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member should know that what I am discussing is what Dr. Kituyi has said, which is permanently in the records of this House. That is what I am discussing and the question of whether he is here or not is irrelevant.

It is a big surprise that the IMF has decided to depart from finance to politics. I am saying that there is a relationship between what the IMF does and politics. But when the reasons why the IMF decides to take action has nothing to do with money, nothing to do with corruption---

Hon. Members: It is because of corruption!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): It has nothing to do with corruption. It is that some people in the IMF have decided to play the role of the Opposition in Kenya. They have decided to perpetrate the agenda of the Opposition in Kenya---

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House that the IMF has withdrawn its grant to Kenya because of politics when it has been stated very clearly that this Government is guilty of absolute and massive corruption?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I know is that hon. Dr. Lwali-Oyondi is in the Opposition and the same IMF is trying to play politics using its role.

The IMF has not given us conditionalities that are related to finance. They have given us conditions that are purely political, but have a lot to do with administration within Government and we do not accept that, as a condition for running our economy. I would like to plead with Members of the Opposition, because I have been with them out of this country most of time and I know what they do, to be patriotic because our country is more important than the pettiness that we are subjecting it to.

Mr. Munyasia: The Opposition does not run IMF!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that hon. Munyasia, who comes from the lower part of Mt. Elgon, likes shouting at me, but the point is that he should sit down and plead with the Members of the Opposition to be patriotic.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Sunkuli in order to say that I am shouting at him? Can an hon. Member like me shout at him? I was only telling him that the Opposition does not run IMF.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member comes from a constituency which will soon be a KANU constituency. I am saying that the Members of the Opposition should also learn a bit of patriotism. When you go out of the country, why is it necessary that you always paint your own country's image negatively? I was with an hon. Member of this House outside this country in a seminar in Sweden and the best that she could do was to request to be given ten dollars to do her campaigns in this country. She did also say terrible things about KANU and, eventually, she ended up collecting US\$200. What kind of shame is this? Is this portraying our country in a proper light? Why can we not sort out our problems here? I do not believe that US\$200 is capable of removing even a sitting councillor from his seat. I think we must learn to respect ourselves so that we can be respected outside.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Raila: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. It was Goebbels, Hitler's Minister for Propaganda, who invented the theory of a great lie. He said that if a lie is repeated so many times people come to believe it. So, this Government is a very good student of Goebbels because, now, this Government believes that if you repeat a lie so many times, the public will begin to believe it. Like Goebbels, who was using the so-called people's sender, they use KBC to instill lies in the minds of Kenyan citizens, that it is the Opposition which has influenced the IMF's decision to cut off aid to this country. The IMF economic conditionalities are so clearly spelt out that no one is fooled if the Government comes and says that they are playing politics. The IMF has said that the Government should try to bring

corruption under check. The IMF will tell them to try and prosecute the people who are involved in the Goldenberg scandal; the biggest single scandal in the post-independent Kenya, but what has the Government's action been on this particular case? In *Raila Vs George Saitoti & others*, the hon. Attorney-General hurriedly came back and entered a *nolle prosequi* arguing that he was in the process of carrying out investigations and was going to prosecute those who were involved. To date, no action has been taken against those culprits.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a case of Kshs5.8 billion which has been pending in court for a very long time. The judges under the influence of the executive wing, dropped this case and said that these people would not be prosecuted. But in the meantime, this same Government was negotiating with Mr. Kamlesh Pattni to hand back to him the Grand Regency Hotel at a payment of Kshs2.1 billion at the time when the Kshs5.8 billion case against Mr. Pattni and others was still pending in court. Who is being fooled? You are negotiating to hand over the Grand Regency Hotel to a person who has been prosecuted with stealing Kshs5.8 billion from the Exchequer. So, this became a drama or a comedy which was being played to the amusement of the donors. The major actors were the Attorney-General, Central Bank of Kenya and the Office of the President. The IMF has become completely bored and dissatisfied with this drama.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this same Government would go and pay \$US6 million in adverts in Times Magazine to try to sugarcoat a message that would not sell. This is a complete propaganda by this Government. When the Minister stands to reply, we want to be told who approved this money, Kshs300 million, to buttress the issue and placate the donors that Kenya has now become a haven of tourism, that economic reforms are now working, that the KPTC, the most corrupt corporation in the country is transparent, and that the energy sector is now being liberalised when the KPLC is now led by Mr. Gichuru. He, Mr. Gichuru, who goes each and every week stealing public money to contribute at KANU Harambees. All this is being done to deceive the world, which has become much more intelligent.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir---

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not wish to disturb the hon. Member for Lang'ata, but I thought I heard him mention the figure of \$US6 million. Could he actually authenticate this because when I come to reply, I want to know what he exactly said?

Mr. Raila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister knows exactly how much has been spent on this advert. It is not a secret. If he wants me to provide him with evidence, I would be able to do so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the Minister is right because Standing Order No.76 states that a Member shall be responsible for the accuracy of any facts which he alleges to be true--- You raised the issue of Pattni, therefore, you are responsible for its accuracy.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would provide the evidence by tomorrow. Hon. Dr. Kituyi talked about certain special relations---

Hon. Members: No! He has promised to bring the evidence tomorrow.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Raila made another categorical statement that Mr. Gichuru steals money every week to contribute at KANU Harambees. Could he substantiate that?

Mr. Raila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the evidence abounds about this, but if he wants me to produce evidence, I will.

Dr. Kituyi made certain caustic remarks about certain special relations between the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, and Patrick Orr & Associates of London. When the Minister stands up to reply, under Head 043, Item 175 - Advertising and publicity, in most missions it is K£4,000; Bonn - K£5,000; New York - K£1,000, Washington -K£2,500; but in London, it is a staggering K£675,000 for advertising and publicity. Can he tell this House where this money goes to, if it is not being paid to Patrick Orr & Associates? Secondly, if it is being paid, where is it being paid? Why did we have the High Commission in London?

Why are we paying K£7.6 million to maintain the staff at the High Commission in London? The Kenya Ambassador to Washington in his testimony to the House of Congress on 3rd July, 1997, committed perjury, again in exercise of this Government's policy to delude the world. He said:-

"We have no political prisoners; no political killings".

This was a few days after 13 Kenyans were brutally murdered on the streets of Nairobi and the whole world knew about it. The Ambassador appeared before the Congress and said that there were no political killings in Kenya. The Government knows that Apiny Adhiambo is serving a life sentence in Kamiti Maximum Security Prison for the last 15 years. He is a political prisoner. The same Ambassador went ahead and produced a document which, now on the evidence by the Government, amounted to perjury. I am saying it is perjury not because he did not table those documents not knowing the kind of documents he was tabling before the House of Congress, but because he knew that

the other documents which had been prepared by the Government were not acceptable. So, he was trying to deceive the House of Congress of the USA.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I am speaking here now, we have 120 people in custody in Kisumu who were arrested because of the Saba Saba riots. Also, 37 people were charged in Makadara Law Courts with political offences. So, we do have political criminals.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Raila in order to mislead this House and the world that those persons who were charged in Makadara Law Courts are charged with political offences when he very well knows that they are charged with offenses related to assault and offenses against property?

Mr. Raila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have very limited time. The Assistant Minister knows very well, as I do, that these people were arrested following the riots of Saba Saba on the 7th July, 1997. So the offenses, therefore, are political.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government has no foreign policy. There is a time when Dr. Njoroge Mungai, as the Minister for Foreign Affairs, said that our foreign policy was to "wait and see". Nothing much has really changed because we do not have proper guidelines on how to relate with other countries. The other day, we were leading the whole of this region in condemning Burundi, and saying that, "We are not going to deal with Burundi because of the military coup in that country". We maintain diplomatic relations with Nigeria, and we are also trading with Nigeria when we know very well that Mushood Abiola is in prison in Nigeria because his only crime is that he won an election in Nigeria. We are having double standards.

(Applause)

Now, again they say "because of humanitarian reasons, we are going to lift certain sanctions against Burundi, that we are now going to supply oil". We know very well that is a Mr. Gideon somebody and Mr. Mark Too who want to supply oil to Burundi.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Raila to scandalise other people? I thought he would rise above this when he knows very well he does not have the facts.

Mr. Raila: For a long time, the Rwandese who were responsible for genocide in Rwanda have been living in this country. We have been giving them VIP treatment in this country until a Mr. Mark Too went to talk with Mr. Paul Kagame. As a response, the Government came here---

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to say a few words on the Vote of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the Minister for his able leadership in the Ministry. In actual fact, he, together with his Permanent Secretary who has been castigated here by my friends, have done very well by selling Kenya's foreign policy abroad. My only appeal to the Minister is that we seem to be spending a lot of money in running our missions abroad, mainly in letting of offices, ambassadors residences and other residences for the other officers. All of us here, together with those who are concerned with the money that is being spent by the Ministry, would like to see properties being purchased. For example, the governments that are represented here have bought some properties in Kenya. They have bought plots and constructed their embassies, residential houses for ambassadors and other staff. I think this is a good way of saving some of the expenditure that the Ministry incurs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other area that I think could be improved is the question of ambassadors, consuls and heads of departments in our embassies abroad. There must be seminars and conferences for these officers so that when they come home, they can be aware of the geography of their country. Most of the officers who are serving in our embassies abroad may not be aware of the geography and terrain of our country. They may not know where we grow wheat, cash crops like coffee and tea, which are in great demand in those foreign lands. I am sure that whenever these officers are at home, seminars could be organised for them so that they can know their country in and out.

Mr. Obwocha: But they were born here!

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): I am sure, as hon. Obwocha is interjecting, that they were born here. But they should know each and every corner of their country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the welfare of Kenyan students studying abroad should always be the priority of our

ambassadors abroad and their officers. This is because our students can easily be swayed by the behaviour of the foreign country in which they are studying. I have a son who is studying overseas. About a week ago, he rung here and said that he had heard that hon. Members of Parliament were fighting and Kenya was on fire, and he was not going to come back home. He is not the only one. I think our students overseas need to be educated and briefed as to what is going on at home. This is the duty of the ambassadors and officers in the embassies. They should make sure that these Kenyan children know what goes on in their motherland, so that they do not become scared and refuse to continue with their education.

I quite agree with hon. Sunkuli who spoke here and said that our commercial attaches' should concentrate on looking for markets for our cash crop produce like coffee and tea, which is in great demand in the Far East and the Western world. To be able to do that, they must be knowledgeable, well-versed and well-trained officers. They should be familiar with the kind of cash crops that we produce in this country. They should also be familiar with horticulture. If you go westwards to places like Kisii and Uasin Gishu, you can get a lot of cash crops. The kind of flowers that are being produced in this country are of very high quality. So, our commercial attaches' abroad should always promote this business.

Another way in which our ambassadors and other officers abroad can sell Kenya is this. In African States, there are a lot of potential job opportunities. I know a lot of Kenyan professionals can find jobs in Namibia, South Africa, Lesotho and other countries in Southern Africa. In those countries, doctors are in great demand. The other day, I was surprised when I read in the papers that we are complaining that our doctors are moving southwards because of "greener pastures". It is good if they can go. This is because I am sure Kenya is saturated with doctors and lawyers. So, our ambassadors, consuls and officers in our embassies could look for jobs for these surplus professionals.

Our ambassadors and officers abroad also need to educate hon. Members when they go out. It appears that when we go out, we become so free, that we even abuse our motherland. It is shameful for an hon. Member of this House or any Kenyan to go out and say; "my mother is naked". That is Kenya. It is bad to go outside this country and start abusing your own country. This is because your country is like your mother. So, I think hon. Members need to be educated and talked to when they are leaving this country on trips abroad.

Mr. Obwocha: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. When the hon. Member talks about mama, does he imply the real mother or KANU which is baba na mama?

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Obwocha knows very well what I am talking about. Kenya is our motherland and we must safeguard this country. It is us the elected Members of Parliament and any other person who calls himself or herself a leader, who are going to run this country. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I finish, I would like to urge the Minister and his officers to keep reviewing the activities of our Embassies abroad. Those Embassies which are dormant should be closed and new ones opened in areas where we have some work.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Obure: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is very important and it is one of the key Ministries in any government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a country without a clear-cut foreign policy is a country without direction. We are privileged to have a young bright Minister, but I do not understand why he cannot initiate that kind of policy in this country. Honestly, he is one of the brightest chaps we have in this country. Why he has failed, is what we do not understand. Some of us who have taken courses in diplomacy understand what it means to have a bright Minister for Foreign Affairs and a future foreign policy based on some principles.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, we have a policy that is baseless. It is simply based on guesswork. Today, if the wind blows here, we all turn here. I would like to state that without a foreign policy which will steer this country to greater heights, we will not get anywhere. For example, our Minister knows very well that our interests should be protected. When we talk of interests, we mean what we can gain from other foreign countries in terms of business; what we can negotiate in terms of importing technology. For example, there is no reason why we should have business attaches if we do not sit down to identify which countries we can trade with and where we can benefit.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, foreign countries have taken advantage of our own country. This

could be attributed to lack of language. I do not think that our young men and women who are in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation are well versed in languages when they are dealing with different countries. For example, if you are negotiating with a Chinese or a Black American, and you are not used to these people, you cannot understand their language. Let us train our young people in schools, foreign languages. Let us introduce Chinese, "Germanese" and French---

An hon. Member: German or "Germanese"?

Mr. Obure: German, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We should teach our young these languages in schools. These languages will enable our people to understand the cultures of other people.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Morogo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to know from the hon. Member what "Germanese" is? I think he is misleading the House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Was that a point of order, Mr. Morogo or a point of information? Proceed, Mr. Obure!

Mr. Obure: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the problem of not studying foreign languages. It is one of the problems in this Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are buying oil from other countries and I would urge the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to think how we can sell the River Nile water from Lake Victoria. We should sell this water the same way we are buying oil because this is a natural resource. I do not see why we are endowed with a natural resource that we cannot use. Let us sell this water. Arabs are selling oil, so I do not understand why we cannot sell water and yet, oil is as good as water. Let us see how we can bargain along those lines.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, many people have talked about protecting our nationals. Today, there is a conflict between Israel and Lebanon and yet, we have not got any Ministerial Statement from the Minister regarding the safety of people there. We had problems in former Zaire and the Minister never came out to tell us how secure our nationals were in that country. Today - and this is touching - we have lost many lives of our students in foreign countries. For example, so many of our students have died in India mysteriously and yet, our Government is not concerned. I know a case where a student was murdered in India and when the parents sought a clarification from this Ministry, nobody listened to them. It was only put to him that the student could have killed himself. We should be concerned about our people and that is why we have the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have always seen the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation going out, but I do not usually see the Assistant Minister, hon. Dr. Manduku, also going out. I do not understand why he should not also go to Britain or Germany to learn. Next time hon. Musyoka is going to lose because in his area KANU is going to fall and we are going to have hon. Dr. Manduku coming back here to take that position and, therefore, he deserves to learn. So, the Minister should give chances to his officers to learn, instead of him going abroad throughout.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not know whether you should not declare hon. Obure out of order, because he has not declared his tribal interests?

Mr. Obure: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think, the hon. Member is afraid that he is going to lose. But I know hon. Manduku will come back to Parliament and he will be the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another thing that I wanted to say here is that we should be serious in according our leaders the dignity they deserve. I went to the United States and when I was coming back, I was very much embarrassed when I produced my passport and I was told: "This is not for Members of Parliament". Everything was scrutinized, all the dirty clothes were removed to find out what I had. This was a shame to our Government and hon. Musyoka should be ashamed of this. You cannot subject your fellow Members of Parliament to such a low dignity.

An hon. Member: Do not carry dirty clothes!

Mr. Obure: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let us honour our Members of Parliament; let us give them the dignity they deserve and provide them with diplomatic passports---

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

An hon. Member: Do you need information?

Mr. Obure: Yes, Sir.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): I would like to inform hon. Obure that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is not responsible for issuance of passports. The

Department of Immigration, Office of the President, are responsible.

Mr. Obure: That is where corruption is and that is why we cannot get passports. Okay, I understand; that is a very good piece of information.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, to round it up, I am directing this to the officers concerned in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation; that they should be serious and protect our interests. Let them not sign documents just for the sake of it. I know that other countries are not happy with Kenya, so do not just agree to sign any document without scrutinizing its contents.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute. I think it was hon. Ndombi who at one time said that if you see your mother "shiting badly", you do not point a finger there.

An hon. Member: Did you say "shiting"?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): I said "sitting"! The hon. Member does not know the distinction between those two words.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Mind your language and proceed.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member does not seem to know the difference between the two words, but it was said that when you see your mother sitting badly, you do not point a finger there.

An hon. Member: Where?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): But you---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Hon. Muchilwa, I did not give you permission to start conversing with the hon. Members on the other side, I want you to contribute and you should address the Chair.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am addressing you. In the process of standing up to go and see the father who is alleged to have called her, the confusion disappears. It is indisputable that Kenya is ours and we are Kenyans. It is, therefore, our collective responsibility, as Kenyans to see to it---

Mr. Munyasia: There is no corruption!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): It is our collective responsibility to see to it that Kenya prospers.

There is no person who cannot at any one stage make a mistake. Kenya at the moment, like any other country, is going through some problems, and all countries have got their own problems. If we have a problem, like any other country has, the first thing should be for us to sit and find out how best to solve that problem.

Mr. Munyasia: You have refused to speak to us.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Munyasia!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a good example is the situation we are in now, the course of discussing about the proposed changes. An outside organisation like International Monetary Fund (IMF), which has been helping us, decides to withdraw aid. Surely, we hon. Members of Parliament, who represent Kenyans, should be the first to try to persuade and talk nicely to the IMF not to cut off aid to Kenya so that the country continues to prosper.

Mr. Achola: (*Inaudible*)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Achola! The hon. Assistant Minister is on the Floor.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a shame when you find some hon. Members who are Kenyans, just because they belong to different political parties, urging the IMF to cut off aid, forgetting that the money is going to go to the very people who elected them. I am speaking in this august House knowing that---

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Muchilwa in order to mislead this House that the IMF has cut off aid to Kenya at the prompting of the Opposition, when we know that all that the Opposition has said is 'thank you' to the IMF for disciplining this particular corrupt Government?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! You are the one who is who misleading the House now. He did not say that.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he did.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Did he?

Mr. Munyasia: Yes.

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

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not say that. That money that the Opposition are urging the IMF to block is the same money that their voters want. The people who voted them into this Parliament want employment. This country suffers from unemployment and we do not want inflation. You are pointing one finger at us but what about the other fingers? They are pointing at you. What are you doing, you who oppose? What are you doing to help Kenya?

Kenya has got a foreign policy which has been articulated. But anything, however good, can always be improved on. If we are going to improve, then it means we have to contribute constructively. But we are not contributing constructively by just abusing people, even those who are not here. It was very sad, for the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, who is a very able and intelligent lady--- She is ten times more intelligent than the one who was abusing her. Now that we are amending the laws of this country--- I am an honourable Member of this House and I am entitled to what I am saying.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It is hon. Dr. Kituyi, who made some comments on Dr. Kosgey, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. Hon. Muchilwa is now saying that Dr. Kosgey is ten times more intelligent than hon. Dr. Kituyi. Is this particular hon. Member in order to make such caustic remarks about another hon. Member, especially when he knows that the hon. Member is not here now?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Order, hon. Munyasia! That is his own personal opinion which may be right or wrong. Can you proceed, please?

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

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said so because why should a lady who is not here, be attacked in the most awful manner? I am going to suggest that when we start the amending laws of this country, some of the laws which would require amendment should involve those that govern the conduct of Members in this House so that hon. Members do not come here and abuse people, who are not here, using the most foul language and then get away with it. This is not fair.

An hon. Member: Then go ahead and print it!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): I will write whatever---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Order, hon. Muchilwa! Address the Chair as you are not supposed to hear what they are saying when you are contributing.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is doing a very wonderful and commendable job. That is why Kenya is well known worldwide. In African countries and other developing countries, nobody can write-off Kenyans and the Ministry that is projecting the image of Kenya positively, of course, is the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry should, therefore, be commended for doing very good work under difficult conditions which are being experienced worldwide. This is because it is a well known fact that soon after the Soviet Union collapsed, the Western world forgot about the Cold War and started their own economic programmes which have hit developed countries. They started the Structural Adjustment Programmes. All these things are hitting all countries, not just Kenya, and it is in our interest as Kenyans to come together in this period of adversity and show that we can help our people. We have to help them in order to reduce the impact of poverty and we are not going to do that while saying that we are going to ban whatever is remaining so that so-and-so becomes whatever it is. Elections are coming and Kenyans will elect whoever they want to be their leaders. But right now, we should concentrate on making sure that Kenyans survive.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my job involves printing and I know that if you want to take a good photograph, you have to position yourself very near your target to take what they call a close-up. You have seen in magazines, and I am not condoning what happened because it was terrible--- I am not condoning what happened during those riots. Hon. Members should not ask what happened when they are in Kenya because these things happened here in Kenya. If you are taking a close-up photograph, you should---

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

In the first place, I want to talk about FERA. I do not know whether the issue relates to this particular Ministry or another Ministry. This is because there is some confusion in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation because it does not know its area of operation. This is so because we have a Minister of

State, Office of the President who is supposed to be in charge of regional affairs. I find that a little confusing because I would have thought that the Minister in charge of regional affairs should be in-charge of the East African Desk or in charge of the East and Central African Desk in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. There is that confusion and, I think, the first thing to do if the Minister is honest, should be to advise the President that he is facing problems in dealing with foreign affairs when it comes to dealing with other countries in this particular region. It is no wonder, therefore, that when there was a regional summit in Eldoret, the Minister was told: "No, this does not concern you much. You go and preside over a Harambee for women and let hon. Biwott take your place."

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member for Sirisia in order to continue misleading both himself and this august House on a matter of such a serious nature? Is it not a matter of dignity that hon. Members address facts accurately?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, all I was talking about was the fact that the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation was not found necessary in a regional summit and the Minister of State, Office of the President, who should have been a Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, was invited instead to participate in that particular summit. This is all I was saying, but let me continue

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Hon. Munyasia, I do not want to interrupt you. Do you have any facts to prove to this House that what you are saying happened or you are just imagining?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation told this House that he had been called and given money to take to a women's Harambee in Mwingi. That is a fact.

Now, let me go to another point. The hon. Minister may refer to this when he comes to reply.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would not really wish to dwell on trivialities, but is it in order for the hon. Member for Sirisia to continue and persist in misleading both himself and everybody on facts surrounding this particular incidence when I had occasion to send a very clear statement from Moscow because the hon. Member for Kimilili again decided to mislead himself and the whole of Opposition? It appears that this is a conspiracy of some sort. I want to confirm that there was a very serious function and I was fully in charge, and I had to go and attend to a Harambee in my constituency. What is wrong with it?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Hon. Munyasia, I want you to continue with your contribution, but you are misleading the House because the Minister has clarified the position and I think he did clarify what happened. Will you proceed and stop misleading the House?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to mislead the House. I always stand by facts. The fact is that there was a regional summit in Eldoret; that is not disputed. The fact also is that this Minister did not attend that meeting and hon. Biwott attended that meeting.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me move to the next point---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! I do not think I will allow you to get away with this. Hon. Munyasia, you must withdraw because you are simply and deliberately misleading the House. You must withdraw because you do not have reason, fact or any written evidence that what you are saying is exactly what happened.

An hon. Member: He had permission from the President. What is wrong with that?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! The President could have given the Minister permission to attend other functions. Therefore, you cannot say that he was sent away by the Minister of State, Office of the President. That one I am not going to allow you to get away with it. You must withdraw and proceed.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I never said that he was sent away by the Minister of State, Office of the President. The HANSARD will bear me out. All I said was that he did not attend that particular meeting.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Order! Hon. Munyasia, I would like you to proceed. Will you withdraw and proceed?

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying that the HANSARD will bear me out. I never said that it was the Minister of State, Office of the President, who sent away this Minister.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me make my points.

The Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Mr. Kosgey): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was at that meeting and hon. Musyoka attended the meeting. Is it in order for hon. Munyasia to continue misleading the House when some of us who attended that meeting can be witnesses?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Munyasia. I will allow you to proceed. I will look at the HANSARD and if you said the Minister was sent away by the Minister of State, Office of the President, you will have to withdraw and apologise.

Proceed.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think it is the duty of every country to see to it that its citizens are living in peace. I think it is not good for the image of the country, to have some of its citizens living outside the country in their thousands. We should not cheat ourselves that Kenya does not have any refugees living outside this country. We have Mr. Patrick Wangamati and Brig. Odongo living in Ghana and thousands of my constituents living in Uganda. This should be the concern of this particular Government. It has now been proved, because we challenged this Government to show that there was any operating organisation bent on overthrowing this Government by armed struggle, and the Government has been unable to demonstrate that. It took a Judge of the High Court to show this Government that they have failed to prove that there is an organisation called FERA and that is why all those cases pending against people who had been held as suspects of being members of FERA were dropped. Since they have had to admit silently that, that organisation is not there, is it not time that this Ministry went to those other countries, like Uganda and others, to bring back these citizens who are languishing in terrible conditions?

Mr. Moiben: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Munyasia has told this House that there are thousands of his constituents outside this country and yet, we know that nobody was expelled from this country. Can the hon. Member substantiate how these people went to Uganda?

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Musyoka): On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Munyasia. Do you want information from the hon. Minister?

Mr. Munyasia: No. If it was coming from somebody from this side, I would have accepted. I will accept it from hon. Busolo!

Mr. Busolo: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to inform the hon. Member that during the hey-days of FERA, it was reported, and it was in the headlines of both the Daily Nation and the East African Standard, that about 3,000 Kenyans were coming back and most of them were Bukusus. We want the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to tell us whether these people were massacred or they are still alive. We have not seen them and this is something that lies squarely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): I think the Minister will have time to respond to that when he is replying. Proceed Mr. Munyasia.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wanted to talk about the recruitment policy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. It is good that this time, we have for the first time in 18 years, a non-Kalenjin as our High Commissioner in Britain. But otherwise, it had been disturbing to see that right from the time this particular Government---

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. With due respect to the hon. Member, is he in order to mislead this House that we are having the first non-Kalenjin High Commissioner in the UK, when we had many others before like the late Dr. Karanja?

The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving an opportunity to support the Motion presented by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. We must be proud that due to the work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation Kenya has an image that makes it be positively endorsed. That is why, for example, in the East African region, we have more foreign embassies than there are elsewhere in the neighbouring states. This is because of the good work that is being done by the Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation.

This Ministry does not present a positive image of Kenya on behalf of KANU or the Government alone: It does so on behalf of all Kenyans, including our brothers in the Opposition. This nation belongs to all of us. Therefore, the Ministry represents all Kenyans, political parties and their supporters and those who do not belong to any party, because there must be such people. Therefore, we must be prepared to support the Ministry if Kenya has to maintain respect worldwide.

When we have an internal issue that makes us feel that our outside friends have a problem with us, we should consult with this Ministry to find out what statements we should make. What is happening now is that when we have a problem with a donor country or the IMF, instead of consulting and finding out what the Kenyan public opinion on

such a matter--- Such a problem affects all of us and not just the Kenya Government or the ruling party, KANU.

We should find a way of tackling such problems. Our internal problems should not be blown out to foreigners, for them to see that Kenyans are not united.

An hon. Member: We cannot unite when corruption is so rampant!

The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, somebody is interjecting and saying something about corruption. I think there is a lot of generalisation about this subject. The laws of this country are very clear and require anybody who knows a person who has committed a crime to report him to the authorities. In fact the Criminal Penal Code requires whoever knows a person who has committed a crime to report him for action. It should not be a question of generalisation here.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Munyasia, you are my friend but I do not want your information.

(Mr. Munyasia and Mr. Achola stood up in their places)

Nyinyi ni ndugu zangu! Mimi ni mzee; nipeni heshima. Ketini chini nyote!

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Mr. Achola! I will give you a chance to air your views. Let the Minister finish giving his views first.

(Mr. Nyachae gestured to Mr. Achola)

Mr. Achola: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Nyachae is threatening me by saying that we use the same road! Knowing how people die out of artificial accidents, I am thoroughly worried.

However, that notwithstanding, is he in order to mislead the House by saying that members of the public have not been reporting cases of corruption when the Public Investments and Public Accounts Committees have recommended action year in, year out, on certain individuals, who have been proved to be corrupt, but the Government has not taken action?

The Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we share the same route and eat in the same restaurants with hon. Achola on our way home.

On the question of Public Accounts Reports, this is a matter that cannot just convince anybody. Before you convict somebody, first, you have to carry out investigations and witnesses have to give evidence before a court of law. I am not a lawyer, but most of you, including the Leader of the Official Opposition, are lawyers and you know what I am talking about.

I would like to talk about international equality. I travel out of the country very often and I would like to request my colleague, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, to ensure that our ambassadors abroad are respected in the same manner we respect ambassadors here. Once our ambassadors go to the countries where they are accredited to, they present their credentials to the Head of State or Head of Government and for the period they serve in those countries, sometimes, they do not get to meet these people again. Unlike there, you will find that in our country our Minister is more than willing to meet the ambassadors. Our ambassadors are not allowed to see people of the same status in the countries they are accredited to. So, if we can allow the ambassadors in this country to see our Ministers or Head of State, our ambassadors abroad must also be given the same opportunity.

There is also the question of dealing with international co-operation. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, just like the Ministry of Finance has a lot of information. Our local dailies write a lot about every coin that we receive from outside this country, but fail to state that most of the money that this country receives is in form of loans. This is not donation, but borrowed money. Many people in this country are being misled. They think that we get free money. We get loans which are supposed to be repaid. We have never received a single cent since Independence, from IMF, free-of-charge. People need to be educated on this. The World Bank does not give free money. It is a loan. It is also important to mention that the World Bank gives out two forms of loans. We have commercial loans and IDA loans. There is concessionary interest on IDA loans, but the principal sum has to be repaid.

I find it difficult to understand, although I am in the Government, why I should send my passport to the British High Commission here for a visa when they do not present their passports to the Kenya High Commission in London for a visa.

(Applause)

Surely, this is a question of a two-way traffic. If they want us to have visas to enter their own country, they should also have visas to enter our own country. By allowing them to enter freely into our country, while we, ourselves must get visas to enter their our country, we are actually admitting that we are inferior. We should not accept that.

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

(Applause)

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion. One reason why we have ambassadors and high commissioners in foreign countries is to look after the welfare of Kenyans residing there. Two, other issues like trade, international co-operation and so on, come later.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is amazing to note that some of these ambassadors and high commissioners evade Opposition leaders because we are not Government officers or KANU representatives. I have been snubbed several times in various countries. It takes me a whole week to see an ambassador. Nowadays, I do not care whether they are dead or alive.

(Laughter)

Therefore, when I go there, I only attend to my own businesses and then come back home. But if they have to give Opposition leaders any audience, first of all, they have to communicate with the Government back home to get clearance. That is wrong. The ideal situation should be that ambassadors look after the welfare of all Kenyans irrespective of their party affiliations. The Government should not intimidate any of these officers when they give audience to Members of the Opposition. Of course, Government Ministers cannot know this until they come to the Opposition. Some of them have realised that they can be frustrated, like the one who tried to resign the other day, because they do not know how much we suffer from the Provincial Administration. But one day, they will know how much we suffer from the high commissioners in the foreign missions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue that I want to comment on is with regard to our students who are studying overseas, and particularly in India. We have an average of 20 to 25 students murdered under mysterious circumstances in India, but our High Commissioner in India does not take any action. At the same time, I have heard Questions being asked here about our people and being answered by the Minister and his Assistant Ministers, who respond very casually to them. The first and foremost duty of any Government is to look after the life of its citizens, and then after that their property. The answers which are given by some of the Assistant Ministers when we ask Questions about the death of our students abroad, are pathetic.

It is high time we begun looking after the welfare of our nationals to ensure that their lives are not worse than those of Wazungus or Wahindis who are out there. For example, there was a foreign lady who disappeared in Mt. Kenya, the Government mobilised most of its resources, including the Army, the Police and the surrounding community to search for that lady. But if it was one of our students who died in India, the High Commissioner and his staff would not even know what is happening because they do not care. The same applies to Kenyans residing in Arab countries where they are being used as slaves. We are going back to the old days when Africans were being misused. Questions have been asked here, but, again, their answers have been pathetic. We must make sure, that our people are looked after whether they are unemployed or parking boys and girls. We must get concerned if one of them is slapped.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Hon. Members it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 6th August, 1997, at 9.00 a.m. The House rose at 6.30 p.m.