

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## OFFICIAL REPORT

**Thursday, 11th September, 1997**

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

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

### PRAYERS

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*Question No. 536*

#### SETTLEMENT OF BANTA SISAL ESTATES' SQUATTERS

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): If Bishop Kimani is not in, the Question is stood over for the moment. We will move on to Mr. Moiben's Question.

*Question No.641*

#### FIRST AFRICAN CHIEF IN TRANS-NZOIA

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Moiben too is not in. Mr. Gatabaki's Question!

*Question No.634*

#### RELATIONS BETWEEN KENYA AND CONGO

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Gatabaki is not in. We will leave the Question for the moment. Mr. Maundu's Question!

*Question No.574*

#### TARMACKING OF EMALI-MATILIKU ROAD

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Is Mr. Maundu in? We will move on to Question No.556 by Mr. Farah.

*Question No.556*

#### DEVELOPMENT POLICY FOR PASTORAL NOMADS

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Farah is not in the House. We will move on to Question No. 617 by Mr. Onyango.

*Question No.617*

#### REVIVAL OF WATER PROJECTS IN NYATIKE

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Onyango too is not in. For the second round, Bishop Kimani's Question!

*Question No. 536*SETTLEMENT OF BANTA SISAL  
ESTATES' SQUATTERS

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): If Bishop Kimani is still not in, we move on to the next Question.

**Mr. Munyasia:** I apologise for coming in late.

*Question No.641*

## FIRST AFRICAN CHIEF IN TRANS-NZOAIA

**Mr. Munyasia**, on behalf of **Mr. Moiben**, asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) who was the first African Chief when the Trans-Nzoia District was proclaimed a district in 1920, and from which ethnic group he belonged to, and who was his assistant chief;

(b) whether the ethnic group (referred to in "a") is now extinct; and,

(c) if the answer to "b" above is in the negative, what arrangement the Government has put in place to resettle this community.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Is the Minister of State, Office of the Present in? If he is not in, we will leave the Question until the end. Next Question!

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to apologise for coming in late.

*Question No.634*

## RELATIONS BETWEEN KENYA AND CONGO

**Mr. Raila**, on behalf of **Mr. Gatabaki**, asked the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation when diplomatic relations will resume between the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) and Republic of Kenya, given the political and economic significance of the Republic of Congo in the Great Lakes Region.

**The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation** (Dr. Manduku): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Diplomatic relations between the Republic of Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo were never severed.

(b) The Embassy of Kenya like many other embassies resident in Kinshasa evacuated their staff either to Brazzaville or their respective headquarters due to the uncertainty of the situation in the country now called the Democratic Republic of Congo. Given the precarious security situation in Brazzaville, all Kenya's diplomats were repatriated.

(c) They have since returned and the Embassy is functioning normally.

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has left out part "d" of his reply and I do not know why he has done that. The answer I have is different from his.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Ask your supplementary question.

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, according to the answer I have, part "d" reads as follows: "The Government attaches great importance to the relationship between the Democratic Republic of Congo in the Great Lakes Region and the Republic of Kenya".

During the struggle for liberation in Congo, the Government was very partisan. The Government went out of its way to criticise Laurent Kabila as being responsible for genocide of the Congolese people. Would the Government consider apologising to President Laurent Kabila of the Democratic Republic of Congo for having slighted him when he was struggling to liberate his people from the rule of one of the worst dictators in Africa? Why has the Government not sent a message of condolence to the family of the late President Mobutu who was a personal friend of His Excellency the President of Kenya?

**Hon. Members:** He did send condolences to him!

**Dr. Manduku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is nothing to apologise for. What is important is

that the relationship between our country and the Democratic Republic of Congo is cordial.

**Mr. Obure:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, would the Assistant Minister explain to this House and the country when we mourn national figures? I am asking this question because when President Mobutu died, we never lowered our flags at half-mast, but lowered them when Diana, Princess of Wales died. What is the difference between those two people?

**Dr. Manduku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not think the Question has anything to do with the lowering of flags, but the relationship between Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**Mr. Muite:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, arising from the answer given by the Assistant Minister that we have never severed diplomatic relations between Kenya and the Republic of Congo, and given the warmth which existed and deep friendship between the late President Mobutu and our own President, can the Assistant Minister assure this House that they are going to recommend to the President of the Republic of Kenya that he attends the funeral of his late friend?

**Dr. Manduku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of Kenya recognizes the legitimate Government and the President in power.

*Question No. 574*

TARMACKING OF EMALI-MATILIKU ROAD

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Question 574 is deferred on the request of the Questioner.

*(Question deferred)*

*Question No.556*

DEVELOPMENT POLICY FOR PASTORAL NOMADS

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Farah still not there and so we move on to Question No.617.

**Mr. Onyango:** I wish to apologise for coming late.

*Question No.617*

REVIVAL OF WATER PROJECTS IN NYATIKE

**Mr. Onyango** asked the Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and water Development :-

- (a) what the Ministry is doing to revive stalled water projects in Nyatike Constituency; and,
- (b) how much money has been allocated for water supply projects in the constituency and which are these projects.

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

(a) My Ministry has undertaken construction of rising main and storage tanks at Karungu Water Supply in Nyatike and plans are underway to equip Kogore Water Supply with a hand pump. However, I would request the hon. Member to appeal to his constituents to return the stolen pumping equipment for Obware Water Supply in Nyatike to enable my Ministry reactivate it.

(b) A total of Kshs18,680,000 has so far been used in 57 water projects in Nyatike, both under the Farmers Group Support and Rural Domestic Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the funds were utilised for drilling and equipping several boreholes, construction of shallow wells and pans, construction of rising main for Karungu Water Supply, roof catchment and construction of a divisional water office among several other water undertakings in the constituency.

**Mr. Onyango:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very unfortunate to get such an answer from the Assistant Minister. We have three water projects which were done by the Colonial Government. Since Independence todate, those water projects are not being maintained. Is it the policy of the Kenya Government not to maintain all the boreholes which were there during the colonial days? Secondly, it is not the duty of the Member of Parliament to look

for items which have been stolen. I know the Ministry knows where the water pumps and the engines are. It has been reported to the police and it is their duty to arrest those people and not my duty. Could he tell the House what the Ministry is doing to recover the engine, because, the Ministry has been told where the engines and the handle of the engine are?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is not the policy of the Ministry not to maintain boreholes which were sank during the colonial times. It is the policy of the Ministry to maintain those boreholes sank during the colonial times or now. Secondly, I appeal to hon. Members to assist us recover the hand pumps. It is true the matter has been reported to the police and they are continuing with investigations. It will do no harm if the hon. Member can appeal to his people to assist.

**Mr. Ojode:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a similar case in my constituency where in Magina Trading Centre in Kabuoch South, where some of the parts of the pump were stolen. Magina residents do not have water as a result of the stolen parts. Could the Assistant Minister tell us what action they are taking on those who are cannibalising the pump? What is the Ministry's policy on this situation and what kind of investigations have been done in order to recover the stolen parts of the pump?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development does not have its own law. It relies on the normal procedure where the police do the investigations and arrest those concerned. Where we totally fail, we look for alternatives to replace the stolen pump.

**Mr. Ndicho:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have various problems all over the country as far as Government water projects are concerned. I have brought to the House similar questions from Juja Constituency where the Juja Water Project has stalled just because electricity bills have not been paid for. In view of all these projects which have stalled, could this Ministry consider handing over those projects to the respective communities, so that they can employ their own watchmen, manage those water projects and make sure that those projects are operational, instead of waiting for the Government to give money? Parliament votes for this money to the Ministry and it never reaches the projects.

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I totally agree with the sentiments of hon. Ndicho.

**Mr. Onyango:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister accept or deny that his Ministry is involved in the stealing of the engine from this water project? If we take the water pump stolen from K'Ogola, whoever took that pump is someone working for the same Ministry. There were two engines in Macalda and they were taken by someone working for the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development. The engine for the West K'Onyango Water Project was taken by someone and the matter reported. But up to now, nothing has been done. Could he agree or deny that the Ministry knows what is happening?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, secondly---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Ask one question at a time!

**Mr. Onyango:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been told that Kshs8.7 million has been used in Nyatike for water supply but so far, nothing has been done there. Could he explain any particular part of Nyatike where that money has been used? As far as I am concerned, nothing has been done so far.

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the first part of his question, I totally deny that staff of the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development are connected with the stolen pumps. If hon. Onyango has any evidence to that effect, he could assist us by reporting that to the police, so that necessary steps can be taken.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kshs8.7 million the hon. Member is querying meant for Nyatike Water Project, is not part of this Question. I would like him to put it as a separate question, so that I can give an exhaustive explanation on how that money was spent.

**Mr. Onyango:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think it is not in order for the Assistant Minister to say that whatever I have asked is not part of the question, yet part "b" of the Question is asking---

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

**Mr. Onyango:** Is he in order to mislead the House by saying that Kshs8.7 million is not part of this question, yet when he was answering my Question, he mentioned Kshs8.7 million?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Mokku, have you misled the House?

**Mr. Mokku:** No, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. In the last part of his question, he has asked me to explain how Kshs8.7 million was spent. In my first answer, I explained how that money was spent.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): We now go back to the first Question. Is Bishop Kimani here?

**Bishop Kimani:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sorry for being late.

*Question No.536*

## SETTLEMENT OF BANITA SISAL ESTATES' SQUATTERS

**Bishop Kimani** asked a Minister of State, Office of the President, when squatters in Banita Sisal Estates of Ndungiri Location will be settled.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): I am afraid Bishop Kimani, your Question will be deferred!

*(Question deferred)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Next Question!

*Question No.641*

## FIRST AFRICAN CHIEF IN TRANS-NZOIA

**Mr. Munyasia** on behalf of **Mr. Moiben** asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:

- who the first African Chief when the Trans-Nzoia District was proclaimed a district in 1920 was, which ethnic group he belonged to and who his assistant chief was;
- if the ethnic group referred to in part "a" is extinct; and,
- if the answer to part "b" above is in the negative, what arrangement the Government has put in place to resettle this community.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Is there anybody from the Office of the President? The Question is deferred!

*(Question deferred)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Farah Maalim's Question for the Second time!

*Question No.556*

## DEVELOPMENT POLICY FOR PASTORAL NOMADS

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

- if the Government has a development policy for pastoral nomads in the country; and
- if the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, when the policy was formulated and how far it has been implemented.

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

(a) The Government does not have an enacted policy for pastoral nomads in the country. However, since 1954 several attempts have been made---

**Mr. Munyasia:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Farah in order to ask the Question without apologising to the House, yet he has come in late after you have called it twice?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): I did not even notice that he did not apologise.

**Mr. Wetangula:** I did not even notice that he did not apologise because that is done as a matter of course. Mr. Farah, can you apologise to the House?

**Mr. Farah:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was late because I lost a relative. However, I apologise for having been late in coming to the House.

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

(a) The Government does not have an enacted policy for pastoral nomads in the country. However, since 1954 several attempts have been made to address problems experienced by the pastoralists in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) in the country.

(b) The first policy statement on development of ASAL in independent Kenya was made in the National

Development Plan for the years 1979-1983. At present my Ministry is implementing a total of 14 districts' integrated development programmes, which are intended to address the development needs of all communities residing in and deriving their livelihood from a particular district.

*(Loud consultations)*

**Mr. Farah:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot hear myself! Can we have some order in the House? There is a lot of noise!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Members! Mr. Farah, there is no noise here but just loud consultations. Go on.

**Mr. Farah:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that an attempt that was made by the colonial Government has not been made by our own independent Government. We have had one circle of droughts after another. Abject poverty has become a way of life for pastoralists. Can the Assistant Minister tell the House why it has not been possible for the Government to have a permanent and sustainable programme for the development of nomads?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, although the first attempt to assist nomads was made in 1954, since then very many such attempts have been made. One programme for the development of ASAL, which had its own funding, existed between 1969 and 1974. Another programme existed between 1974 and 79, and it covered large areas of ASAL districts in this country. Further to that, there was another programme in 1978, which also took care of some of the ASAL districts in this Republic. So, it is not true that a programme for development of ASAL was prepared only in 1954. There have been also many other programmes, although they have come up at different intervals and covered different areas.

**Mr. Achieng-Oneko:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want the Assistant Minister to come out clearly and explain to this House who these "pastoral nomads" are. These words have been used and will go into the records of this House. These words were rejected in 1961. It is abusive to refer to the people living in northern Kenya as nomads.

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am answering the Question that has been asked by the hon. Member. These words have not been formed by the Ministry. Let me inform hon. Achieng-Oneko that nomadic pastoralists live in Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Isiolo, Marsabit, Tharaka/Nithi Districts, parts of Mbeere District, Tana River District, Turkana and Kajiado Districts, parts of Laikipia District, Narok, Samburu, West Pokot, Marakwet Districts, parts of Keiyo District, Koibatek, Baringo and Trans Mara Districts.

**Mr. Ndicho:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Hon. Achieng-Oneko is one of the oldest hon. Members of this House. He has given us a very important piece of information: They rejected the term "pastoral nomads" in 1961. He has asked the Assistant Minister to tell this House who these people are. Instead of the Assistant Minister doing that he has told us of places where some people reside. Is he in order to refuse to say who pastoral nomads are? Should he not go by what is in the records, indicating that these words were rejected by this House in 1961?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): That is not a point of order.

**Mr. Farah:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, pastoral nomads in this country are people who move from place to place with their livestock. He mentioned Makueni District, which is part of ASAL but it is not inhabited by pastoral nomads. No problem of these nomads has been solved even though we have had one drought after another. When we ask the Government to come up with a programme for the nomads, we mean to ask it to solve their problem once and for all, or the bulk of it. Can the Assistant Minister tell the House why his Ministry has failed to allocate development funds to Uaso Ng'iro North Development Authority? It is the only authority which is supposed to address the problems of these people. Why has he not allocated funds to this authority to enable it create integrated and permanent projects for the benefit of pastoral nomads?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, to correct the first part of hon. Farah's question, I have not mentioned Makueni anywhere in my answer. As for the second part of his question, it is not true that the Ministry has failed to fund Uaso Ng'iro North Development Authority. The Ministry has allocated to the authority whatever money has been available from the Exchequer. The Ministry relies on the Treasury for funds. It might have been very little but whatever we have received from the Treasury we have given to the authority.

**Mr. Farah:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I need the right answer from the Assistant Minister. Let him listen to me very carefully. I talked about development funds and not recurrent expenditure. Development funds are given for a specific project. Why has the Government failed to provide development funds to the Uaso Ng'iro North Development Authority? It has done the same for other development

authorities like the Kerio Valley Development Authority, Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority and the Coast Development Authority. The activities of these other development authorities have had an impact on the residents of their areas of operation. Why has the Government not done the same for the development authority that is supposed to serve the pastoral nomads in northern Kenya? Is it because the Government does not like them?

**Mr. Mokku:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government does not hate the people in any part of this Republic. The amount of development funds set aside by the Government for Uaso Ng'iro North Development Authority is not part of the original Question. If hon. Farah raises this point in form of a separate Question I will give him the information. No matter how little it may be, some development money was set aside for this development authority.

### QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

#### TENSION IN KIBERA ESTATE

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that tension is rife in Kibera Estate, and that following reports that violence similar to the Likoni incident is imminent, some residents are fleeing the area?

(b) If the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative, could the Minister investigate and take appropriate action to avert any occurrence of such violence in this area?

**Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Is there anybody here from the Office of the President? We will leave this Question for now. Mr. Ruhiu's Question.

#### DEMOLITION OF SQUATTERS' HOUSES

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that on Sunday 17th August, 1997, the Provincial Administration demolished houses belonging to squatters at Maili Saba Embakasi, and rendered the squatters homeless contrary to the Government policy of settling the landless?

(b) Is he further aware that a number of private land owners are using the Provincial Administration to evict the squatters without giving them alternative plots?

(c) If the answer to "a" and "b" above are in the affirmative, will the Minister direct that these evictions be stopped forthwith and those displaced be allocated alternative land to settle?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Anybody from the Office of the President? If there is nobody, then we can go to hon. Ojode's Question.

#### TERMINATION OF MR. KICHIA'S LOAN

**Mr. Ojode:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Education the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister explain the circumstances that led to the termination of the loan extended to Mr. Kichia Ouma Collins of Moi University, Faculty of Technology, by the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB)?

(b) Is the Minister aware that Mr. Kichia who is a fourth year student has not been registered for the current semester for lack of Kshs25,700 withheld by the Board?

(c) What is the Minister doing to ensure that this student continues with his education without any hindrance?

**The Assistant Minister for Education (Mr. Komora):** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I ask the indulgence of the House and the hon. Member to give me time to reply to this Question next week, because I have not received the necessary information to enable me give a reply to this Question.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Mr. Assistant Minister, when do you want to answer it?

**The Assistant Minister for Education (Mr. Komora):** Tuesday next week, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Fair deal. Hon. Ojode, the Assistant Minister says he will answer the Question on Tuesday next week.

**Mr. Ojode:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree to that, but let him, at least, bring a satisfactory

reply. Please, Bwana Minister!

**Mr. Shikuku:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Nafikiria kwamba ni kawaida ya Bunge hili, Mbunge yeyote anayemjibu mwingine kufanya hivyo kupitia kwa Spika. Ni haki kwa mhe. Ojode kuongea na Waziri Msaidizi na kumwambia kwamba "You, you, you---" Je, ni haki kufanya hivyo bila kupitia kwa Bw. Spika?

**Mr. Ojode:** Bw. Shikuku---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Ojode! Not everything said about you attracts a response.

#### ALLOCATION OF HELB LOAN TO MR. OSIR

**(Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o)** to ask the Minister for Education:-

(a) Could the Minister explain why Robert Osir of the University of Nairobi, Faculty of Agriculture (No.22/0144/92) has not received his money from the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) since March, 1997?

(b) Is the Minister aware the Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB), Kisumu West Branch, has denied having received any money from the Board to disburse to Mr. Osir?

(c) What is the Minister intending to do to ensure that Mr. Osir receives his money so that he can pay for his accommodation to be able to sit for his examination in September, 1997?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o not here? Next Question.

#### LATE PAYMENT OF PENSIONS IN MERU

**Mr. Mwiraria:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Finance the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that pensioners who receive their pensions at the District Commissioner's office in Meru are getting their payments between the 15th and 20th of the following month instead of between the 1st and the 5th?

(b) Is he further aware that as a result, the pensioners are losing, in some cases, all their pensions on expenditure incurred on travel and accommodation expenses?

(c) What action is the Minister taking to rectify this anomaly?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Anybody here from the Ministry of Finance? Hon. Gitau's Question

#### SALE OF CHANIA DAIRY ASSETS

**Mr. Gitau:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Co-operative Development the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that the Chania Dairy Co-operative Society in Kamwangi Division of Thika District is no longer operative and its committee, which is illegally in office, has disposed of all movable assets and it is right now in the process of selling the society's building?

(b) What immediate action is the Ministry taking to save the society's property?

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development** (Mr. Titi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I answer this Question, I beg to apologize to the House for what transpired yesterday. I was just in the House and then I had gone out to get the answer. I rung the PS and he told me that the answer was ready.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Assistant Minister, deal with matters of today.

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development** (Mr. Titi): No, because it was in the newspapers, so---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): That one will come under Standing Order No.69; after Question Time.

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development** (Mr. Titi): Okay, thank you Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have the answer right now and I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that the Chania Dairy Co-operative Society Limited in Kamwangi Division in Thika District is no longer operative and its committee has disposed of some of its movable assets. However, I am not aware that the committee is illegally in office and it is in the process of selling the Society's buildings.

(b) The office of the District Co-operative Officer, Thika has been instructed to carry out investigations into



the affairs of this society with a view to having the said committee prosecuted or surcharged in accordance with Section 77 of the Co-operative Societies Act Cap 490, Laws of Kenya, if found to have contravened the Act.

**Mr. Gitau:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has answered the first part properly that the Chania Dairy is no longer operating. But the answer to part "b" of the Question leaves a lot to be desired because they already know the facts, that property belonging to Chania Dairy has been sold. At the moment there is a cheque being held by the Gatundu Police Station of Kshs280,000, in connection with the sale of the Dairy's vehicle. What is the Government doing to make sure that the members of this Society get their money back and make sure that the property, particularly the building housing the Chania Dairy Co-operative Society's offices is not sold because investigations have been carried out and no report has been delivered to the members of the society?

**Mr. Titi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in view of the prevailing circumstances, the Ministry of Co-operative Development has invoked Rule 26 (4) to convene a special general meeting on 17th, September, 1997, at the Society's Headquarters at Gatukuyu Market to chart out the destiny of the Society and more particularly, to discuss the disposal of the assets, map out strategies of reviving the society and to elect a new management committee, review the suitability of the delivery system with at least, all members attending the meeting. So, I think the hon. Member will have to inform the members of the society to be ready for a meeting on 17th of this month.

**Mr. Ruhiu:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while the District Officer is making investigations into the affairs of this Society, could the Assistant Minister instruct the District Officer to stop this Society from disposing of its own building?

**Mr. Titi:** Because the meeting is going to be held on 17th, September, which is just next week, I think the best thing is to advise the members to attend the meeting because there is a problem as the hon. Member has explained.

**Mr. Cheserek:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are asking the Ministry to take an immediate remedial action to stop the disposal of the assets of this Society but he is talking about 17th September, which is three or four days to come in which time the assets could have been disposed. Could the Assistant Minister undertake to ask the DO to prevent the these officers, who are in the office illegally, from trespassing the precincts of the Society?

**Mr. Titi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I know is that the committee is legally in the office. But they have messed up with the affairs of the society. So, I can assure the hon. Member that I can ask the Ministry to take action to see that the assets of the society are not disposed of until we have that meeting.

**Mr. Manoti:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the co-operative movement in Kenya has done a very commendable job, but in most cases, the investments which have been done by the investors are being sold by those who are in the office without the consent of the shareholders. What is the Ministry doing to prevent these people in the office from selling the co-operators' properties without their consent?

**Mr. Titi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think that is a more general question, so I have no answer to give.

**Mr. Gitau:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not have the written answer to that Question because I have not been given a copy. The Assistant Minister has said that there will be a meeting on 17th September, 1997, and this meeting will be chaired by the District Co-operative Officer, if I got the Assistant Minister right. The District Co-operative Officer, himself is against the co-operators and he is the same man who has been behind the collapse of that Co-operative Society. He has been colluding with the management committee. The calling of this meeting was through my personal effort and I am surprised now that the same person behind the sale of the assets of the society is the one who is going to chair the same meeting. Could the Assistant Minister give us a different officer from the headquarters to chair the meeting because we cannot accept the District Co-operative Officer?

**Mr. Titi:** Thank you, hon. Gitau, for bringing this to my attention. I will ensure that you will get somebody else to chair the meeting, not that particular officer.

#### TENSION IN KIBERA ESTATE

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the Second Time, I beg to ask the Minister of State, Office of the President, the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that tension is rife in Kibera Estate, and that following reports that violence similar to the Likoni incident is imminent, some residents are fleeing the area?

(b) If the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative, could the Minister investigate and take appropriate action to avert any occurrence of such violence in this area?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula) Anybody from the Office of the President? Question deferred.

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, until when?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): I have no way of saying when they will be ready to answer. It is just deferred. See the Clerk's office.

*(Question deferred)*

#### DEMOLITION OF SQUATTERS' HOUSES

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that on Sunday 17th August, 1997, the Provincial Administration demolished houses belonging to squatters at Maili Saba, Embakasi, and rendered the squatters homeless contrary to the Government policy of settling landless people?

(b) Is he further aware that a number of private land owners are using the Provincial Administration to evict the squatters without giving them alternative plots?

(c) If the answers to "a" and "b" above are in the affirmative, will the Minister direct that these evictions be stopped forthwith and those displaced be allocated alternative land to settle?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Is there anybody here from the Office of the President?

**Mr. Ruhii:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is a provision in the Standing Orders which states that a Question by Private Notice should come before this House within 48 hours. This Question was submitted to the Clerk of the National Assembly on Tuesday last week. It came up yesterday and the Minister in the Office of the President was absent and it was deferred to this afternoon. Unfortunately, he is absent again today. Can you enlighten the House as to what we ought to do regarding this Standing Order?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Ruhii, I have nothing to enlighten the House about. The Minister is not there, therefore, there is nothing I can do. It is desirable that the Question must be answered according to what the Standing Order says. But the Minister is not here, and in the spirit of what went on this morning, I will hesitate to make any harsh remarks about the non-attendance.

**Mr. Ruhii:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hear that the Minister is---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Ruhii!

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o's question!

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

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Raila. Your point of order is disallowed.

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

Hon. Raila, you know we cannot both be on our feet as the Standing Orders do not allow that. So, you are misconducting yourself by standing up when I am also standing.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o, ask your Question.

**Mr. Raila:** On a point of order---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Raila! We have gone past your Question. There is nothing to go back to. It has been deferred. You may consult with the Clerk and if they have room on Tuesday, they will put it on Tuesday's Order Paper. If it is not that, then I will not allow you because it has nothing to do with the Question Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o is about to ask.

**An hon. Member:** Throw him out!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Raila! Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o, ask your Question.

#### ALLOCATION OF HELB LOAN TO MR. OSIR

**Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Education the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Could the Minister explain why Mr. Robert Osir of the University of Nairobi, Faculty of Agriculture (No.A22/0144/92) has not received his money from the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) since March, 1997?

(b) Is the Minister aware that the Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB), Kisumu West Branch, has denied having received any money from the Board to disburse to Mr. Osir?

(c) What is the Minister intending to do to ensure that Mr. Osir receives his money so that he can pay for his room and board and be able to sit for his examinations in September, 1977?

**The Assistant Minister for Education** (Mr. Komora): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, may again seek the indulgence of the House and the hon. Member to answer this Question on Tuesday?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Why?

**The Assistant Minister for Education** (Mr. Komora): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not received the information I need to answer that question effectively.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): The Question is deferred to Tuesday next week.

*(Question deferred)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Mwiraria's Question!

#### LATE PAYMENT OF PENSIONS IN MERU

**Mr. Mwiraria:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Finance the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that pensioners who receive their pensions at the District Commissioner's office in Meru are getting their payments between the 15th and 20th of the following month instead of between the 1st and the 5th?

(b) Is he further aware that as a result, the pensioners are losing, in some cases, all their pensions on expenditure incurred on travel and accommodation expenses?

(c) What action is the Minister taking to rectify this anomaly?

**The Assistant Minister for Finance** (Mr. Barmasai): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, first I wish to apologise for coming late to answer this Question.

I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that pensioners who receive their pension at DC's office in Meru are getting their payments between the 15th and 20th of the following month.

Pensions cheques are dispatched all over the Republic through the Post Office under registered mail between the 1st and 3rd of the following month.

(b) I am also not aware that pensioners are losing, in some cases, all their pension on expenditure incurred on travel and accommodation expenses.

(c) In view of my answers to (a) and (b), no action is being contemplated.

However, I wish to ask the hon. Member that if he has any specific cases, I would be very willing to check and see what is happening and take appropriate action.

**Mr. Mwiraria:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in view of the answer given by the Assistant Minister confirming that cheques are sent out between the 1st and 3rd of the following month, could he assure this House that the pensioners in Meru can be given a date in the following a month when the Ministry expects the cheque to have arrived in Meru so that they go there on a day when they will get their pensions and stop wasting time and money trekking to and from their homes to Meru and back again, wasting money? Could he assure the House that he will do that and pinpoint one day? Let him check how long it takes for these cheques to reach Meru and then the pensioners can be told: "Come for your pension on the 8th or 10th" or whatever date. But let a day be set aside when they go there they can be assured of getting their pension.

**Mr. Barmasai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is a very difficult undertaking because it involves the Post Office and also the payment in the DC's office. I think the right people who could give the exact date is the DC's office.

**Mr. Mwiraria:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Since the Assistant Minister is in charge of finance and we know that at no time is the District Treasury in Meru empty, can he not guarantee that the cheques which are sent on time between 1st and 3rd will be used to defray whatever expenditure the DC will have incurred, and, therefore, give this guarantee? Is he in order to say that he cannot do it?

**Mr. Barmasai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the only undertaking I could give is to check from the DC the date he receives these cheques and then, maybe, be able to fix with him so that he, in liaison with my office, would be able to tell the pensioners when to come.

**Mr. Busolo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that the reason why these

payments are made between 15th and 20th is because the DCs and the DOs are corrupt and they want to eat money from the little payments that these pensioners receive? In other words, they want bribes before they release the cheques. That is the actual situation pertaining to these cases. Is he aware of that?

**Mr. Nthenge:** Exactly!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Order, Mr. Nthenge. You are heckling.

**Mr. Barmasai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier, I am not aware that the payments are made between the 15th and 20th. But as I have said, if there are any specific cases of corruption where bribes are demanded, I would be willing to note them and take appropriate action.

**Mr. Murungi:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Part of the problems is that pensioners from the neighbouring districts of Tharaka Nithi and Nyambene come to collect their pensions from the DC's office, Meru. Can the Assistant Minister organise for pensioners in Nyambene and Tharaka Nithi to collect their pensions from their DCs at Chuka and Maua, so that they do not have to travel all these long distances?

**Mr. Barmasai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that can be done. We can ensure that they are paid at the DO's offices. Further so that, we have also asked pensioners if they could give us their account numbers so that we can send those cheques to their bank accounts.

**Mr. Shikuku:** Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kufuatana na hilo jawabu nzuri, mhe. Barmasai anaweza kutuambia kwa nini, mpaka sasa, watu wa Nyambene na Tharaka Nithi bado wanakwenda kwa DC, Meru?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** Mr. Shikuku, I thought you were cheering him in satisfaction.

**Mr. Shikuku:** Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, hiyo ni kweli. Lakini ninataka kumuuliza kwa nini imemchukua muda mrefu kufanya hayo marekebicho? Kwa nini mpaka sasa hawalipwi katika ofisi ya DO? Kule kwetu Butere, hundi zinachukuliwa kwa ofisi ya DO, siyo kwa DC, kwa maana huko ni mbali sana.

**Mr. Barmasai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I had replied earlier, I was not aware that they still travel that far. But since he has made me aware, then I will rectify the situation.

**Mr. Nthenge:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a common problem experienced, not only in Meru, but almost everywhere. Can the Ministry of Finance order DCs to pay pensioners at the District Treasury between certain dates so that pensioners are paid immediately they arrive at the DC's office and when the DC receives these payment cheques, he can make a re-imbusement? This arrangement should be made to avoid the many journeys the pensioners make to the DC's office. These pensioners are people who have served the Government for many years and even after they retire, they still have to make long journeys in order to collect their payments. Sometimes, they have to pay for accommodation for the night in case they are not paid on the day of arrival. Can you make arrangements so that the DCs can pay the pensioners, with whatever money they have in the District Treasury because they are sure the Government will send the cheques?

**Mr. Barmasai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I very much sympathise with the pensioners. I will look into the matter and take the appropriate action.

**Mr. Mwiraria:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has challenged me twice to give him examples of cases of people who were paid late. I undertake to do that, but can he on his part undertake to refund them their expenditure which they incurred due to that delay?

**Mr. Barmasai:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did ask the hon. Member to give me the information so that I can look at it and see what action to take. I cannot give any undertaking on what action I am going to take before I look at the specific cases.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula):** That marks the end of Question Time. I have got one point of order from hon. Ndicho. I grant you two minutes to raise your point of order.

#### POINT OF ORDER

##### RETENTION OF A CORPSE AT THIKA HOSPITAL

**Mr. Ndicho:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a point of order concerning the Ministry of Health. In today's dailies the mismanagement of Thika Maternity Hospital is highlighted. The management of this hospital is detaining the body of a woman who gave birth on Saturday to a still-born child. Both the mother's and the still-born child's bodies are detained in a room in this maternity hospital which does not have a mortuary. I am requesting the Minister for Health to order the management of Thika Maternity Hospital, through a telephone call to transfer the bodies to Thika District Mortuary. This is because the bone of contention is non-payment of a bill of Kshs21,000. The family of this lady from Ngirima in Kaguku have not been able to pay this Bill. While this woman's family is looking for the money, the body should be taken to the

mortuary because they are now giving out a very bad stench and disturbing the residents of Kimathi Estate. Since the Minister for Health is absent, I want to invoke the principal of collective responsibility and ask hon. Kamwithi Munyi to take up the matter and call the management of this hospital and tell them to transfer these bodies to the mortuary. The managers of this hospital are catholic Nigerian nuns and we know that Nigerians are notorious for carrying out rituals on dead bodies. We do not know what they are doing with the dead bodies since Saturday. So, can we ask hon. Munyi or hon. Biwott to invoke the principal of collective responsibility call this hospital and order them to solve the matter. I think, hon. Biwott will be heard more than hon. Munyi.

**The Minister for Co-operative Development** (Mr. Munyi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will communicate that message to the Minister of Health on what hon. Ndicho has said because I was listening very attentively.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Next Order!

## BILL

### *Second Reading*

#### THE ELECTRIC POWER BILL

*(The Minister for Energy on 10.9.97)*

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 10.9.97)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): Who was contributing yesterday?

**An Hon. Member:** Hon. Keah and he is absent.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Wetangula): I understand it was hon. Mathias Keah and he is absent. Anybody else?

**Dr. Lwali-Oyondi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the spirit of constitutional reforms which we have just been discussing, sincerely speaking, I cannot say that I have gone through this Bill. But I hope to go through it during the various stages although I have a few remarks as regards the electricity supply.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy now that electricity is going to be privatised. Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) has been a very efficient organisation. It was much more efficient than the Kenya Posts and Telecommunication Corporation (KPTC) because whenever we experienced any problem, they could come even in the middle of the night and restore the electricity. But I do not know what happened somewhere along the line. This is because services began deteriorating and the supply of electricity became very erratic. As a result, people experience a lot of problems in operating their industries which for all practical purposes are still in their infant stages.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have had too many electricity power cuts both during the day and night. It has affected the industries, social lives and so on. We hope that when we involve a lot of private electricity suppliers all distributing electricity into the national grid, this problem will be solved. This erratic and poor electricity supply has resulted in our goods becoming much more expensive than those imported by our competitors. Goods become expensive or less expensive depending on whether you can produce them quickly enough, and the best way to occupy your time is to be able to produce these goods throughout the year on a 24 hour basis, throughout the year. That way, that particular item will become less expensive than when the electricity is cut off and there is no supply and, therefore, instead of manufacturing let us say 10,000 items, you only manage to make 1,000. It means that the price of 10,000 items is transferred to those 1,000 items that you have made and, obviously, they will be much more expensive.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government should consider making use of the wind energy. We have plenty of wind particularly on the plains in Maasailand and in North Eastern Province where winds are more or less blowing all the time. I think we should make use of wind energy to generate electricity in such areas. Where there is water, for example, in River Nzoia where we have the Webuye Falls, the Pan African Paper Mills Company could easily harness that wind, given the fact that we are going to allow private companies to do so. Pan African Paper Mills can easily construct a dam there and generate electricity for local consumption, thereby releasing the electricity that they now obtain from the national grid to other people to use. We have a very nice and big falls on River Yala and the Government should encourage a private electricity supplier to generate hydro-electricity there. In Thika for example, we have two natural gorges near Blue Posts Hotel. These are first of all very beautiful falls. These are Chania River Falls and the Thika River Falls. These gorges could be dammed and let them get full almost to the level of the Blue

Post Hotel grounds, then they could be opened into an electricity generating plant which could supply Thika with electricity so that Thika can release whatever electricity it uses to the national grid.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government will also have to encourage use of geothermal electricity generation. For example, Lake Bogoria has a lot of steams or geysers which could be converted into, not only geothermal electricity supply, but also those natural steams coming from the crux of the earth could easily be used for natural pumping of water to places where there is no water. That water could be desalinated because there is a bit of salt in it, and we have fresh water without having to use any energy apart from the natural energy from the crux of the earth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we look into all these things and try to advertise them, we shall find that we shall generate electricity much more cheaply and cleaner, by this I mean not polluting the air because, at the moment, we have to be very sensitive to our environment and we do not want to damage it. Then begin again to recoup it much more expensively. Therefore, the usage of geothermal and hydroelectricity should be encouraged more.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, all over Europe, it is amazing how very small streams are used for generating electricity locally. These are some of things that we should encourage so that we save our country from pollution.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am a bit perturbed on the bulge(?), there is a bulge(?) somewhere in Kipevu or on the Coast which is supposed to generate electricity, but using fossil fuel. I do not know why that particular investor was thinking of generating electricity off-shore, if I got that thing well, because the land is very cheap and so on. Why can that particular company not build a house on land and generate electricity instead of generating it on a floating bulge(?). My fear is that sooner or later, we are going to have a lot of oil pollution. This particular bulge(?) is, if I understood it well, supposed to use fossil oil for the generation of electricity, it means that later on because of usage of heavy oil and by-products from this particular machine will be dumped or spilled over into the sea, thereby damaging our marine life and spoiling our coastal line. We cannot over-emphasise the necessity to keep our environment clear and clean because, once we damage it, we shall damage our own health and beauty of the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have just perused through this Bill, I hope that there will not be heavy interference with people who generate their own electricity using very small power plants, like those which can generate, for example, two to three kilowatts. I think that means that by having a power plant that can generate electricity enough to supply about 30 or 1000 kilowatts, I do not think anybody should be interfered with.

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

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

I hope the Minister does not mean that he will have to ask permission from anybody in our rural areas to have a machine ranging from one to about ten kilowatts. The farmers and ordinary people, for example, should be allowed to generate that without permission from anybody. At the moment, if we start refusing people to have more licences is what we want to avoid. But up to a certain limit, it has been said up to one megawatts, I think that is the time we should start asking for a licence.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, having said that, we come to the electricity supply and maintenance of lighting in towns. When I first went to town, one thing that fascinated me, at a very early age of about four years, was street lights. That was quite some time ago. Towns were synonymous with street lights. Today, our towns are dark, where there were street lights, they are not there. During the day, we see street lights on, but at night we do not see any street lights on.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope that the KPLC and all the other companies that will be given permission to supply electricity will have, at least, to supply it at a lower rate to the street lights which must be looked after by the Local Authority. The poor lighting in the streets has resulted into a lot of mugging, particularly in my home town, Nakuru. In places like Roda Estate, it is very dangerous to move around in the night. We have tried to ask the KPLC to give us some street lights on private level, but the figures they are giving us to pay for that particular project are astronomical. There is a down payment of about Kshs300,000.00, I do not know for what, is rather too heavy because we wanted to light some places where women and men sell things particularly in the evening, say, at Sokomjinga. The prices they gave us were very high.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another thing that I do not understand is when a given community wants

electricity supplied to their areas, they are asked to pay money to buy a transformer. Once that transformer has been bought, the KPLC use it to supply electricity to other people without compensating them. I think, if it is a fair play, once a transformer has been bought to supply electricity to a given area, it should be the property of those people. If anybody wants to make use of it, they can be compensated instead of it becoming a property of the KPLC.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know how much tax is charged on transformers. I hope that the Government does not charge them, and if it does, it should step down the charges for electricity equipment, particularly those which are going to be connected with the public electricity generation. Most of our coastlines in the afternoon are very stormy and we should use these storms to harness the generation of electricity so that we can have clean electricity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the issue of solar energy, I would like to urge our universities to do some research so that we can have photovoltaic electric generation whereby we are in the sun and, yet, we are not making use of this resource. Secondly, the Government should encourage the manufacture of solar energy generating systems locally. I know that tanks and other things are manufactured locally, but the actual electronic equipment for the generation of electricity should be manufactured here through our local technical schools.

### QUORUM

**Mr. Mbui:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is no quorum in the House.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Mcharo): Yes, there is no quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

*(The Division Bell was rung)*

### ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Mcharo): Order! Order! Hon. Members, due to lack of quorum, the House now stands adjourned until Tuesday, 16th September, 1997, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.50 p.m.