

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 19th June, 1996

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.187

RETIREMENT UNDER GOLDEN HANDSHAKE

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Muite not here? Next Question, Mrs. Asiyo.

Question No.322

IRRIGATION SCHEMES ALONG LAKE VICTORIA

Mr. Speaker: Is Mrs. Asiyo not here? Next Question, Mr. Mutani.

Question No.230

PAYMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCE

Mr. Mutani asked the Minister for Health which categories of employees in the Government hospitals are paid responsibility allowance and how much.

Mr. Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Health? We will leave that Question until the end then. Let us move on to the next Question.

Question No.251

DEMOLITION OF JUA KALI STRUCTURES

Mr. Ruhiu asked the Minister for Local Government:-

(a) if he is aware that on 15th and 16th June, 1995, auctioneers appointed by Muwa Trading Company Limited, under Civil Suit No.906 of 1995 in the High Court of Kenya, Nairobi, demolished Jua Kali structures on plots Nos.1-77 and plots Nos.A-F, despite High Court order issued on 27th April, 1993, staying all allocations and evictions on this land, situated in Kariobangi South, until the hearing of their application, which was due on 27th July, 1995, was determined; and,

(b) if the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, what action he is taking to ensure that this court order is enforced to protect the interests of Jua Kali Artisans who have, so far, lost property during these two demolitions.

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

(a) Yes, it is true that there was a court order restraining the Nairobi City Council from evicting or demolishing the Jua Kali structures on the quoted plots, Kariobangi South Nos.1-77 and Nos.A-F, and the Council complied.

The structures in Question were demolished by some other people or persons other than the council.

(b) The court order that was in force was restraining the council from evicting the Jua Kali artisans, court

order No.667 of 1993 and not No.906 of 1995. This was an order against the council which the council obeyed. The plaintiffs are, therefore, advised to seek legal redress in court.

Mr. Ruhiu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important Question because it involves my Jua Kali artisans in Kariobangi South. The fact is that Muwa Traders Company Limited approached the Provincial Administration who assisted them to go and evict Jua Kali artisans contrary to the order granted by Justice Okubasu in 1993. So, what I am asking is if the Assistant Minister for Local Government will ensure that these Jua Kali artisans are not evicted by Nairobi City Council or by the Provincial Administration with their assistance to Muwa Traders Company Limited?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will comply with the Question by the hon. Member.

Mr. Kamuyu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since Muwa Trading Company Limited have illegally and contrary to our court order destroyed these structures, would it be in order if these Jua Kali artisans went ahead and rebuilt these structures. Would the Ministry have any objection to this? Would he also restrain Muwa Trading Company Limited and the Ministry of Local Government from going against the artisans since they are legally supposed to be there?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the auctioneers who happen to set people to the Jua Kali area have been told not to step there again because the Ministry will want to find out exactly what took place on the ground.

Mr. Ruhiu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I inform the Assistant Minister that within the same area currently, there is land allocation being carried out by my predecessor, Mr. David Mwenje, assisted by the Provincial Administration. Would he confirm or deny that this is currently going on, and that last week there was almost a breach of peace committed because all Jua Kali artisans had taken pangas, axes and stones to ensure that they drive away these people who are allocating this land?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if such a thing is taking place, the Ministry will now investigate and restore the situation back to normal.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Shikuku.

Question No.240

LOSSES BY KENYA AIRWAYS

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Shikuku not here? Next Question, Prof. Mzee.

Question No.223

PENSION INCREMENT FOR POSTAL WORKERS

Prof. Mzee asked the Minister for Transport and Communications:-

(a) if he is aware that the Prof. Mbithi's Commission recommendation to increase pension for retired postal workers has not been implemented; and,

(b) when will the increase in pension for postal workers be implemented.

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

(a) Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation relies on Government guidelines on pension. The latest was the Pensions Increase (Amendment) Bill of 1995 and legal Notice No.487 of 1995. Consequently, KPTC adopted the revised pension formula with effect from 1st May, 1995, as per Legal Notice No.327 dated 14th September 1995, signed by the Minister for Transport and Communications.

(b) As stated, KPTC has already adopted a revised formula with effect from May last year as per legal notice.

The Corporation continues to rely on the Government guidelines on pension review. A review is anticipated after the Pensions Increase (Amendment) Bill 1995 is enacted by Parliament.

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a serious contradiction in the answer which the Assistant Minister gave, which says: "A review is anticipated after the pension increase amendment Bill, 1995 is enacted by Parliament". This is all in future. It is anticipated and, therefore, it means that this Bill has not been enacted. This is a serious contradiction because in both parts (a) and (b), the Assistant Minister had said that this review was done on 1st May, 1995.

Notwithstanding that, the Government will agree with me that the pensioners are the most neglected

people in Kenya. At the time when you are very old and sickly, you do not have a Government house to live in. First of all, your pension is delayed and when you eventually get it, it is peanuts, and then there is no regular formula for increasing the pension. This Government should pay very close attention to the old people who have served this country very sincerely. My Supplementary Question is---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Are you asking a question or delivering a lecture?

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was a very humble preamble. Now I come to my question.

Mr. Speaker: Order! In ordinary circumstances, I have been very generous to hon. Members. But this is allotted time, and I will have to strictly finish Question time within the hour. So, please, will you keep the preambles until we have finished the allotted time?

Proceed!

Prof. Mzee: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My supplementary question is: Whatever increase the pensioners obtained in May, 1995 has no relationship to Mbithi's recommendation. Mbithi's recommendation was for huge payments to the pensioners. I am still asking when the Mbithi recommendation will be implemented.

Mr. Morogo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have already said, the recommendation, according to the Legal Notice, was implemented last year. The next review will be, I suppose, by the end of the year, hence the statement "anticipated increase". I would like to inform the hon. Member too that I do not think the Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (KPTC) neglects the officers who have worked for them. We value the service that they have rendered to the Corporation and we do assist them even after their retirement so that they lead a normal life outside their duty.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the Assistant Minister agree that the cost of living has been escalating at a rate well beyond the imagination of pensioners and even the employers? Given the rate at which the cost of living is going up, what is the Government, and for that matter, KPTC doing to make sure that pensions will forever remain realistic in terms of the cost of living?

Mr. Morogo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree the cost of living is becoming increasingly problematic.

*(Hon. Kamuren crossed the Floor
to the Opposition Side without bowing)*

Mr. Kamuyu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Did you see hon. Kamuren crossing from that side to this side without bowing? Is he in order? Is he okay, really? Does he require treatment?

Mr. Speaker: Order, now! I saw hon. Kamuren move across the Floor in a manner that is not allowed by this House and he was consequently out of order. He is ordered to come back and move to the other side in an authorised order.

(Laughter)

(Mr. Kamuren went back and bowed to the Chair)

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

Mr. Morogo: I agree with hon. Mak'Onyango that this has been a problem, but as I said, the reviews are done every now and then with a view to, at least, assisting the employees and pensioners to have a reasonable life. It is very difficult to give a 100 per cent increase to allow the people to meet such escalating increases every now and then, we will do our best.

Mr. Speaker: The last question, Dr. Kituyi.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the reply by the Assistant Minister, if he is aware that the principal recommendations of the Mbithi Commission are contained in the Pensions Amendment Bill of 1995, which has not yet been enacted into law by this House, how can he, in the same vein, purport to answer a question here by claiming that the recommendations of the Mbithi Commission were implemented last year?

Mr. Morogo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I referred to a Legal Notice by the Ministry authorising the Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation to carry out the review of the pensions. Because the KPTC itself recognises the problem, they have reviewed this issue, but not quite in line with the recommendation as such because this will be in September. They have already adjusted this to allow the people to be assisted.

NEGLIGENCE OF TARMAC ROADS

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

why the following tarmac roads have been neglected by the Ministry:

Giगतिका-Ngandu School-Kiamariga-Sagana State Lodge-Kiganjo Town; Mathaithi (off Karatina)-Tumutumu Mission-Kiamuthenga-Nyeri main road; Nyeri Town-Tetu Mission; Nyeri Town-Mathari Mission-Ihururu; Gatitu-Kagumo-Mukurweini and Kagumo-Kangubiri.

Mr. Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Public Works and Housing? We will leave that Question until the end then.

Next Question!

Question No. 274

EXCLUSION OF MASTER WACHIRA

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Mutahi not here? We will leave his Question until the end. Let us move on to the next Question.

Question No. 177

RETIREMENT OF HOTEL STAFF

Dr. Kituyi asked the Minister for Labour and Manpower Development:-

(a) whether he is aware that the management of Safari Park Hotel and Casino in Nairobi has arbitrarily sacked, declared redundant or prematurely retired permanent staff and replaced them with permanent casuals contrary to the industrial relations charter and all normal procedures of replacing staff;

(b) what action he has taken to safeguard the interests of the workers in this hotel; and,

(c) what are the results of the investigations into labour unrest at the hotel which the Minister promised this House in 1994.

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Ali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) No, I am not aware.

(b) Both the director and the personnel manager of the hotel have been charged in a court of law.

(c) On the part of management failing to accord the necessary co-operation and producing the records in respect of their casuals---

Dr. Otieno Kopyio: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Are we talking at cross purposes? Is the Assistant Minister answering a Question different from the one on the Order Paper?

Mr. Speaker: Well, I am baffled! If he is not aware, why is the manager then charged?

Mr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of the circumstances and I am trying to elaborate in part (c) that, due to the failure of the management to co-operate with the Ministry officials and to produce records, a move which actually blocked the investigations, the Ministry has taken the hotel director and personnel manager of the hotel to court under a criminal case.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, to start with, I sympathise with a Government Minister who is given a written reply dated today, whose first sentence is: "yes, I am aware" and cannot read that; unless I am being told that the answer given to me which says: "yes, I am aware", and therefore justifying a case in court is different from another one he has, which says that he is not aware, and says that there are people in court. Those are two different meanings. But be that as it may, I first brought this matter here in 1994 and this Assistant Minister, in reply, said he was going to carry out investigation about the sackings and redundancies. Since then, as of 31st March, 1996, 298 employees of the Safari Park Hotel had been prematurely retired, sacked or forced and intimated to retire. I lay on the Table the list of the names of the 298 African employees who have been fired. There is also a list of a small number of casuals, who are supposed to be permanent casuals, according to a letter justifying the act by the general manager. It is a notorious fact that the management of Safari Park Hotel continues to harass and intimidate African workers. When they are being fired, they are told, as this letter says, "It is in their mutual interest that they move and can seek a job elsewhere without being tarnished in their records." Can the

Assistant Minister tell this House why, to be declared redundant when you are on permanent employment is a privilege to you that you can seek employment elsewhere, And particularly why Mr. Adrian Muteshi, the Personnel Manager of Safari Park Hotel, continues telling the workers in the hotel that he cannot be touched because the Minister for Labour and Manpower Development was his junior in the Civil Service and he will always control the senior staff there? Can he tell us if he has any contrary views?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Dr. Kituyi! It is time for you to be replied to.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just a final sentence before I get the reply.

Mr. Speaker: Order! If you want to hear your own voice, I will move to the next Question.

Proceed Mr. Ali.

Mr. Ali: It is going to be against the *sub judice* rule to discuss this matter because it is already before the court.

Mr. Speaker: What have you said?

Mr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Kituyi wants to know the case number, but it is going to be against the *sub judice* rule to discuss this matter now and yet it is already before the court.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! Order! It was only last week that I ruled that any Member who intends to rely on the *sub judice* rule must do so at the earliest opportunity and must satisfy the Chair that, indeed, the matter is really *sub judice*. I do not think that you have done both. You did not take the opportunity at the very first time when you answered this Question, to say the matter was *sub judice*, and you have not satisfied me by production of any charge sheet or a plea to show that the matter is *sub judice*. This should not be taken for granted. Nobody should take it for granted that once you claim that the matter is *sub judice*, the Chair is going to accede to your claim. You have, indeed, to convince the Chair that, that is the case.

Mr. Ali, do you want to answer to what he has asked?

Mr. Ali: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir. What I said earlier is that the officials of the Ministry were blocked from carrying out investigations, and records of all the employees, both casuals and permanent employees, were not produced by the management of Safari Park Hotel. As a result of the failure by the management to do so, we had no alternative other than taking the management to court.

Mr. Mulusya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The issue which was raised by hon. Kituyi was in connection with the answer which the Assistant Minister gave that: "Yes, I am aware." The Assistant Minister, in his reply, has said he is not aware and then he goes ahead to talk about issues which he claims are *sub judice*. Can he now tell us whether he is aware or not?

Mr. Ali: In the absence of the records, I would still maintain that I am not aware.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead this House by claiming in part (a) of his answer that he is not aware about the redundancies while under part (b) he said that they have taken people to court because of the redundancies and that they do not have evidence or the information when I am laying on the Table copies of accepted delivery dockets from EMS of the details about the redundancies and the complaints by the workers? One letter is addressed to Mr. Phares Kuindwa, Permanent Secretary and Head of the Civil Service. The other one is addressed to Mr. Kangi of the Hotel and Allied Workers Union. The third one is addressed to Mr. Philip Masinde, the Minister for Labour and Manpower Development. That letter is dated 21st March, 1996, and contains all the information necessary for him to answer the Question set before him.

Mr. Speaker: First of all, Dr. Kituyi, you had not laid those documents on the Table, had you?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I assumed that the Minister was already aware because I have evidence that he has been informed about this.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I want all of you to be honest to yourselves and to the House. When you said that you have laid the documents on the Table, it must be a statement of fact. So, I would like to hear his response. If he wants to look at those documents---I believe up to now you have not laid the documents on the Table but I want hon. Members, when they say that they have laid their documents on the Table, that should become a statement of fact. As it is now, that was not a statement of fact from you. Can you proceed?

(Dr. Kituyi laid the documents on the Table)

Mr. Gitonga: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. In answering this Question, the Assistant Minister has said that he is not aware and yet he has told us that the personnel manager of Safari Park Hotel has been taken to court. For what purpose was he taken to court if he is not aware?

Mr. Ali: I had already replied to that question. It is due the failure of the management to produce records and co-operate with the officials of the Ministry that they were taken to court. Secondly, these documents will not be useful to us because they are from the union. The only documents which will be useful are those from the employer himself which---

Mr. Mulusya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to say that these documents which have been laid here are not going to be useful to the Ministry when he has not even looked at them to know what they contain? Is it by virtue of him being late that they have ceased to be useful to him?

Mr. Speaker: That was a point of argument.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think the House, and the country generally, and more particularly workers are having a lot of problems because this Ministry is not helping them. We had a Question here the other day about an employee who had been sacked irregularly, and this Assistant Minister was fumbling with an answer which was not correct. Earlier on, when I was following up that matter with him, he did tell me about this particular Question where he had two answers. He had an answer from the Ministry which said that he was not aware. He told me: "I do not accept this because I am aware. As a result, I have written another answer in which I am saying I am aware." That is what is going on here. What can we do about this? Could he go back and bring an answer in which he is either aware or he is not aware?

Mr. Speaker: I suppose the best course of action, as I have already indicated is, that hon. Members, be they in the Front Bench or the in the Back Bench, are bound by their own intellectual honesty to be faithful to themselves, this House and to this country and answer the Questions as correctly as possible. If you require time, I will grant it. That is the best I can do. I am not in possession of the answer which the Assistant Minister has given and I am not also in possession of the facts that the hon. Member in the Back Bench is having.

Dr. Kituyi: In honesty to myself and to this House, even as we come to the end of this matter, I still insist that I have a written reply which is totally concurring with the written reply read by the Assistant Minister, whose answer to part (a) is: "Yes, I am aware." Having said that, I have used different documents. The first one was a statement of the list of the persons who have lost their jobs. The second was a letter from the general manger, purporting to explain why it is in the interest of workers that they are declared redundant and not from the trade union movement. Can this Assistant Minister for once be serious? When I brought this matter here in 1994, he just smiled as he is doing now and gave us an irrelevant reply. Can he for once tell us what investigations the Government has carried out before charging these people in a court of law as reflected in part (c) of this reply, which says: "After the investigations, the hotel was charged in a court of law." What investigations did you carry out before charging them in a court of law?

Mr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will be very good for the hon. Member to wait until the case comes up in the court so that we can actually what records and what are the circumstances of all this sacking and redundancies.

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

Mr. Speaker: Can we leave this matter now?

Hon. Members: No!

Mr. Speaker: Next Question. Mr. Paul Muite for the second time.

Mr. Muite: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise for coming in late.

Question No 187

RETIREMENT UNDER GOLDEN HANDSHAKE

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

(a) how many civilians working in the Department of Defence have applied to retire under Golden Handshake,

(b) out of the number in "a" above:-

(i) how many applications have been approved;

(ii) how many have already retired;

(iii) how many are awaiting for a decision; and,

(c) if there are some who are waiting for a decision in "b" above, what has caused the delay and how long are they likely to continue waiting for a decision.

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

(a) Mr. Speaker, Sir, 1,286 civilians working in the Department of Defence have applied to retire under

the Golden Handshake Scheme (Voluntary Early Retirement Scheme).

(b) (i) 776 applications have been approved.

(ii) 776 applications have been approved and the affected personnel have been retired.

(iii) 510 applications have been recommended and are awaiting approval for retirement and are awaiting approval to retire or not to retire.

(c) The 510 applications, not are approved are with the Civil Service Reform Programme Secretariat and are being processed for the approval by the National Steering Committee before those to retire and are finally approved.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Prof. Mzee: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am really surprised with the Assistant Minister.

(Mr. Manga was still on the Floor)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Manga! Are you on a point of order?

Prof. Mzee: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir. He cannot read properly. They did actually pass the---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Prof. Mzee! I thought you were on a point of order and not on a point of surprise? What were you on?

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the Assistant Minister to read answers as if he is in standard one?

(Laughter)

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Manga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am reading the answers as they are written here. Since the Programme is up to 1996/97 Financial Year, the decision will be made before the end of the Financial Year, 1996/97 and they will be retired.

Mr. Muite: Mr. Speaker, Sir, fortunately, I was able to follow what the Assistant Minister was trying to read because I had a written answer. Otherwise I would not have been able to follow. But is the Assistant Minister aware that because a majority of the officers in key positions in the Department of Defence come from one ethnic community, there is discrimination against all those who wish to retire under the Golden Handshake scheme, but happen to come from other communities other than the one that is favoured in this particular Department?

Mr. Manga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware. The criteria is that if the service of the officer who has applied to retire is not required, then he is allowed to retire, and there is no discrimination at all.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Questioner did make reference to the fact that the majority of the senior officers in DOD are from one ethnic community and they are, therefore, the ones who are frustrating the retirement arrangements of other officers from other communities. I did not hear the Assistant Minister respond to that aspect. Is the Assistant Minister accepting that that allegation is true, in which case, he should tell us which that community is and how many they are?

Mr. Manga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought I said I am not aware. That is the right situation.

Mr. Achieng-Onoko: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister says that he is not aware that quite a number of officers who are not members of a certain group are being frustrated and as a result they are being forced out of their employment.

On top of that, as I stand here, can the Assistant Minister agree with me that there is not even a single officer in the Army from Rarieda Constituency? There is not even a single officer because I have checked and I know that, that may apply to other areas and other constituencies.

Mr. Manga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is most likely that there is no single applicant from that area because this is voluntary.

Mr. Farah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the fact that we have and we maintain a very big Army, and that we are not in a state of warfare, and they are a massive drain on our own economy and resources, could the Assistant Minister consider retiring or rather extending the Golden Handshake facility to the existing officers and the non-Commissioned Officers of our Armed Forces?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that is relevant to the Question.

Mr. Ndicho: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Can the Assistant Minister tell this House why members of British origin in the DOD are treated as separate entities because they are given special treatment?

When we come to this Golden Handshake Scheme, why are they not also considered to be retired on this

Golden Handshake Scheme? Why, Wazungu?

Mr. Speaker: Order! Are you referring to civilians, Mr. Ndicho?

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am referring both to the civilians and those in the Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker: That is irrelevant if it is not civilians. The Question is about civilians in the DOD.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the same. I am referring to drivers, mechanics.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let the Assistant Minister answer the Question.

Mr. Ndicho: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, because---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Ndicho! It is my duty to make hon. Members relevant to the Question.

Next Question, Mrs. Asiyo.

Question No 322

IRRIGATION SCHEMES ALONG LAKE VICTORIA

Mr. Speaker: Mrs. Asiyo is not yet in? I will drop her Question.

(Question dropped)

Question No 230

PAYMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCE

Mr. Mutani asked the Minister for Health which categories of employees in the Government hospitals are paid responsibility allowance and how much.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Criticos): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to apologise to the House for being late. I beg to reply:-

Administrative (not responsibility) allowance is only paid to those Medical, dental, clinical and nursing officers who are assigned administrative duties in addition to their normal professional work.

They include Provincial Medical Officers, Medical Officers of Health, Medical Superintendents, District Public Health Nurses, District Clinical officers and Clinical Officers/Nursing Officers in-charge of Provincial, District and Sub-district hospitals and officers in-charge of Health Centres and dispensaries.

The administrative allowance is payable as follows:

	Kshs per month
Medical and Dental Officers, Job Groups P and above	1,000.00
Medical and Dental Officers, Job Groups M and N	800.00
Medical and Dental Officers, Job Groups K and L	500.00
Clinical and Nursing Officers, Job Groups M and above	500.00
Clinical and Nursing Officers Job Groups K and L	400.00
Clinical and Nursing Officers, Job Groups G, H and J	300.00

The above only applies to officers on administrative duties.

Mr. Mutani: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Arising from that answer by the Assistant Minister, is he aware

that we have such officers like Nursing Officers in charge of isolation ward, surgical ward and maternity wards who need to be given this responsibility or administrative allowance?

Mr. Criticos: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is plain English; since we are talking about people with administrative duties. Those persons are not under administrative duties.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister be sincere enough and answer this Question which the hon. Mutani has asked? There are those hospital staff who man very key areas like isolation wards who have to even work at very odd hours and have to run these wards almost as fully-fledged departments of the hospital. Why can these people not be considered to be given responsibility allowances because these are areas which are very specialised and they require at least some incentive from the Government?

Mr. Criticos: The comments of the hon. Member have been noted and we will see if there is any provision in our Ministry for that.

Question No. 240

LOSSES BY KENYA AIRWAYS

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Martin Shikuku here? I will drop his Question.

(Question dropped)

Mr. Speaker: Was Mr. Mathenge's Question answered?

Mr. Mathenge: No.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, Mr. Mathenge.

Question No. 326

NEGLIGENCE OF TARMAC ROADS

Mr. Mathenge asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing why the following roads have been neglected by the Ministry:

Giagatika-Ngandu School-Kiamariga-Sagana State Lodge-Kiganjo Town; Mathaithi (off Karatina)-Tumutumu Mission-Kiamuthenga-Nyeri main road; Nyeri Town-Tetu Mission; Nyeri Town-Mathari Mission-Ihururu; Gatitu-Kagumo-Mukurweini and Kagumo-Kangubiri.

The Minister for Public Works and Housing (Prof. Ng'eno): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to apologise for not being here on time and I also beg the indulgence of the House to allow me to answer this Question tomorrow. As it is, I have the answer here but the supplementaries which are very good and which I approved myself in May are not with me. The file is somehow misplaced and I would like to beg the indulgence of the House to answer this Question another time.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mathenge, is that possible tomorrow?

Mr. Mathenge: Yes, he can answer it tomorrow if he wishes.

Mr. Speaker: Well, if I order.

Mr. Mathenge: Okay, please give him an order to answer it tomorrow.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, Professor Ng'eno has requested that, due to his inability to answer this Question at this time, the Question be deferred until later. Therefore the Question is accordingly deferred.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, for the second time, Mr. Muhika Mutahi.

Question No. 274

EXCLUSION OF MASTER WACHIRA

Mr. Mutahi asked the Minister for Culture and Social Services:-

(a) which event did Master Michael Ngaruka Wachira from Ndiani Primary School of Mukurweini Division participate in Nairobi during the selection for those who left for America on 25th June, 1995; and,

(b) what number he was in the event;and,

(c) why he was left out on this trip.

The Minister for Culture and Social Services (Mrs. Mwendwa): Mr. Speaker Sir, I think it will be in order for the hon. member to apologise for coming late because I was here when the time for his Question was called for the first time. Nonetheless, Mr. Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Speaker: He did not apologise?

The Minister for Culture and Social Services (Mrs. Mwendwa): He did not apologise.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order Mr. Mulusya! Order now! Mr. Mutahi were you here when I called this Question the first time round? If not, this House is owed an apology by you.

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to apologise for coming late.

The Minister for Culture and Social Services (Mrs. Mwendwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Master Michael Ngaruka Wachira from Ndiani Primary of Mukurweini Division did not participate in any event for the selection for those who left for America on the 25th, June, 1995.

(b) He had no number.

(c) Accordingly he was not selected for the trip to America.

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought that the Minister should also apologise for giving such misleading answers because I do not think she was the Minister in that Ministry then. The information that she has been given is quite misleading.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this boy participated in the 100 metres race and he was number three but since the parents are peasant farmers, his name was replaced by another child.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, can the Minister tell us where the selection was made.

Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is there any law in this country which says that if your parents are peasant farmers you cannot go to America? Is the hon. Member in order to imply that he was replaced because his parents were peasants?

Mrs. Mwendwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this selection was being done and when the participants were going to America, I was the Minister in charge of Culture and Social Services.

(Applause)

However, the fact is that what we are talking about is Spacial Olympics and the Special Olympics Association (SOA) is an association which a school must affiliate itself to. When the school is affiliated to or is a member of the association, students or pupils of that school compete with other schools who are affiliated to the association and then when they compete, it is from the countryside where the pupils are selected from and then they come to Nairobi. They usually come to Nairobi en route to where the Special Olympics are to be held.

This school is not affiliated to the Association at all, even today and therefore, the question of a poor farmer does not arise.

(Applause)

Mr. Kamuyu: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want guidance from the Chair because, apparently, the Minister says that there was no participation at all for this particular child. The hon. member says that indeed the pupil participated and was given a number. Now, this House and even the country at large will not be able to know which is which and, therefore, we need to know who is telling the truth and who is not. Somebody is---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Kamuyu! I have said several times, including this same afternoon, that I plead to hon. Members to be honourable and always obey the truth. I have no doubt of course, that between the Member and the Minister, the House will choose who to believe, taking into account who is in charge of the Ministry concerned. But nevertheless, I would urge hon. Members not to get me involved in all this. I have made a plea to this House that every hon. Member must be guided by his own or her own intellectual honour.

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My point of order is that the Minister states that Master Michael Ngaruka Wachira did not participate in any event. That was her first reply.

Mr. Speaker: Order! You are trying to mislead the House by advancing a very illogical argument. If you are not affiliated you cannot participate. That is what the Minister has said. And because the school was not affiliated, the boy did not participate. Mr. Mutahi, the last one.

Mr. Mutahi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a known fact that all primary schools now in the rural areas are allowed to recruit a class of the disabled. That is what is happening in my constituency. Every school has such a class. Could the Minister tell us whether her Ministry realised that this school was not registered after the boy participated in the events or she had known even before that the school is not registered but there are disabled students in this school, and many others?

Mrs. Mwendwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if a school on its own, decides to have the mentally retarded pupils to participate in games in the school, there is nothing wrong with that. However, for any student to participate in Special Olympics nationally, the school or the institution must affiliate itself to the Association and we did check the records because the Association has got a list of the institutions which are affiliated to it. And this particular school is not affiliated at all, even now. Therefore, the pupil could not have participated. What I think is that, because there are some common names from the area, maybe there was a child who was called Wachira. There are very many Wachiras from Kikuyuland. Otherwise that school is not affiliated.

Mr. Speaker: Order! By the way, Mr. Mutahi, we do not behave that way in the House. This House has a tradition of rules and also a tradition of respecting ladies. So, hon. Members must uphold that tradition. That does not mean that ladies must not answer questions properly. I am afraid, I had in fact overlooked the fact that I had two Questions by Private Notice, and I gave Mr. Mutahi undue long time in the belief that I did not have anything else to do. So, can we now go to Mr. Anyona's Question.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

PURCHASE OF RAHIMTULLA TRUST TOWER

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that tea farmers in Kisii, Nyamira and throughout the country are dissatisfied with the manner in which the Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) purchased Rahimtulla Trust Tower without the consent or knowledge of the farmers?

(b) Is the Minister also aware that the farmers are now being coerced by KTDA to sign declarations that they had consented the purchase of Rahimtulla Trust Tower and authorised deductions from their dues for the purchase?

(c) What was the purchase price of Rahimtulla Trust Tower and was the purchase authorised by the Ministry and the Treasury as required by Section 12 of the State Corporations Act (Cap.446)?

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. arap Saina): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware of the dissatisfaction of tea farmers with the manner in which KTDA purchased Rahimtulla Trust Tower. On the contrary, KTDA had the full mandate of the tea growers through the elected representatives. Following the mandate and after extensive consultations, KTDA purchased Rahimtulla Trust Tower.

(b) KTDA is not coercing farmers to sign declarations to the effect that they consented to the purchase of the building. What farmers have signed are share application forms for the same project. Already, about 98 per cent of the total shares have been subscribed and paid for by willing growers. Once this process is completed, the shareholders will become the owners of the building.

(c) The purchase price of the 10-storey building was Kshs120 million and had the approval of the KTDA Board and my Ministry. The building was purchased with growers funds in furtherance of smallholder tea cultivation and procured in accordance with KTDA Order and not the State Corporations Act Cap. 46.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister insists that he is not aware that farmers are indeed dissatisfied, and he says that they were given a mandate by their elected representatives. He goes on to say that what is being issued are share certificates when the truth is that because they failed to consult farmers, when the farmers refused and raised alarm, they are now getting letters through the banks to get the farmers to say that they gave authority in 1992 for them to deduct money. That is what he is saying. Can he then produce the kind

of share certificates that are being issued here so that he can effectively challenge what I am saying, that there are letters going through the bank forcing farmers to say that they gave authority in 1992?

Mr. arap Saina: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very simple transaction. The tea growers had given mandate to the Board of KTDA, their elected members to carry out the transaction of purchasing Rahimtulla Trust Tower.

As to the question of producing share certificates, I cannot do it here, but if the member wants me to prove that, I can ask the KTDA or the members to give me the share certificates because I know they are already having them.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Anyona! In all fairness, I think I have stated that I had overlooked Mr. Anyona's Question and Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo's as well. I had not noticed that I had two Questions by Private Notice, and I did not give enough time. I think to be fair, I would partly defer Mr. Anyona's Question and wholly defer Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo's Question to tomorrow.

(Mr. Anyona's Question partly deferred)

DE-GAZETTEMET OF HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dr. Otieno-Kopiyo to ask the Minister for Health:-

(a) In view of the fact that many medical facilities in Nyanza and Western provinces have de-gazetted under the provisions of Section 29 of NHIF Act and that the Government facilities in these areas cannot cope with the total patients' in-load, could the Minister consider taking urgent steps to provide these areas with increased medical supply as well as personnel in order to stem potential medical crisis in Nyanza and Western provinces?)

(b) Could the Minister further consider re-gazetting these facilities to enable them re-commence treatment to NHIF card holders?

(Question deferred)

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS

(Order for Committee read)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR.

(The Minister for Finance on 18.6.96)

(Resumption of debate interrupted in the Morning Sitting on 19.6.96)

(Second Day of the Budget Debate)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Gitau will continue. You have two minutes, Mr. Gitau.

Mr. Gitau: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to continue. Before we adjourned in the morning, I was on the banks which are compromising the economic development of this country. Let me not dwell on this because we know that Barclays Bank and KCB shares have been bought by highly placed personalities who would like to see these banks continually harassing and suppressing the small businessmen. That is why this Budget did not address itself to this issue seriously.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, looking at the economy of this country we see that the Budget has not addressed itself to the issue of farmers, particularly in the marginal areas. In this respect, I find that the Budget has provided about Kshs7.8 million for water projects in Machakos. Our brothers in Maasailand and Eastern Province do not need tap water but dams so that they can improve their agricultural economy and in this way, they will not look upon the KANU Government to supply them with relief food. It looks like these people will have to continue supporting the oppressive KANU Government because they do not have enough food and the same Government does not take trouble to make sure that they farm their own foods by use of water from dams. They need to improve their agricultural base so that they do not comprise their political beliefs with their stomachs.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to also say a few things about the Budget Speech. I will split my remarks into two; first, concentrating on the taxation proposals and, second; on policy priorities as set out by the Minister for Finance. There are a number of problems with the proposals for taxation as contained in the current Budget. Kenyans are only too painfully aware of the extent to which corruption has pervaded the practices of auctioning goods at the port of Mombasa and yet the first quarter of the customs duty's recommendations in this Budget are setting out additional work of auctioning goods not claimed during the provided time. It would be necessary for this Government to tell Kenyans through which method it is going to contain the hand of greed and corruption which has been pervading the exercise of auctioning particularly of cars before we can trust that, when they do undertake or declare that they are auctioning goods, the beneficiary is the Kenyan taxpayer and not some politically well connected individuals.

Secondly, in this Budget there are some general statements talking about assisting the Jua Kali sector. It is very difficult to understand this Government, in one breadth it is telling us that it is going to facilitate the expansion of the Jua Kali sector and with the other, it announces the removal of duty on wheel-barrow at time when we know that, the technology for the production of wheel-barrow is domesticated in Kenya and the Kenyan Jua kali can make good wheel-barrow. What the Government should have done is to increase duty and not reduce duty on wheel-barrow.

There are two very worrying explanations that are provided in this Budget for the Government changing of taxation measures. The first one is on Number 14, where they announced a reduction of tax on *mitumba* the reason being that they hope that with reduced tax, there will be greater compliance by those who are importing *mitumba*.

The next one is about major agricultural commodities. Alternative specific duties will be retained but at a lower effective rate of agricultural commodities such as maize, wheat and powdered milk and the reason given is that the lower effective rates are in order to protect against undervaluation. It is very dangerous if the Government of this country is going to tell the Kenyan taxpayers that a consideration in the lowering of taxes is in order to get greater compliance. First, we are still very concerned, those of us who come from agricultural producing areas, why this Government continues to pretend about the problem of dumping. The Government has demonstrated inability to use tariff measures to contain the dumping of cereals, milk and sugar in the country and now when they tell us that to stop Bawazir from importing sugar, they have to reduce the tariff that he has to pay, there is something wrong! There is something wrong to tell us that *mitumba* is going to have lower tariffs so as those who are importing them do comply with the tariff requirement. The truth is, with the reduction in tariffs, *mitumba* continues flooding this country with "Marehemu George's clothes" at the expense of the cotton industry in Kenya and the related employment opportunities in the textile industry.

Secondly, we have demonstrated in this House before that the culprits who bring in *mitumba* duty-free are not the run-of-mill, indeed, I have brought here documents to show that Gideon Moi was one of the principle culprits importing *mitumba* duty-free. Reduction of duty is not going to make Gideon Moi bring *mitumba* and pay tax. What needs to be done is that every thief who bring in *mitumba* without paying tax is taken to court not reducing the duty and assuming that it is lighter burden and he is going to bear it.

Another matter is that, while I appreciate and laud the decision of the Government to reduce duty on sporting equipment because of the encouragement of sporting development in this country, at a time when we are tightening our belts, when the Kenyan consumer is taxed in many different ways, I think there should have been a separation between mainstream sports and certain luxury sport which should not qualify for reduction on duty in the equipment they bring in. Here I am thinking of such sports such as scuba-diving, deep-sea-fishing, snorkelling, hot-air-ballooning. These are areas which have no necessity for the promotion of sports in Kenya and should have in fact received accelerated taxation instead of this reduction of tax to 15 per cent.

We all know and appreciate the benefits that go to persons who get duty-free cars but it is scaring that for a time now, there has been a steady expansion of the bracket of persons who can import things duty-free. First it was returning students and returning people who have been working or living abroad for a long time, then it was Members of Parliament, then was Permanent Secretaries and diplomats and now we are being told that the spouses of diplomats should also bring in cars duty-free. One would have wanted to be given particular reasons why it is important that when a diplomat is coming with a duty-free car his wife or her husband should also be allowed to bring in a car duty-free. Now, I wish to turn to the main priority-expenditure areas of the Budget. First, it is a national disgrace for this country which is primarily dependent on agriculture, for a country in which 28 per cent of GDP comes from the agricultural sector, to have a total Budget for the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing of K£400 million and then to set out that in priorities Government seeks to heavily invest in agricultural developments. There is nothing in the substantive section on agriculture which reflects any

urgency to reverse the decline in cereal production, which has mainly come out of the declining quality and provision of input and actions of the greedy to dump things in this country. There are a few other areas where this Government sets out something in this Budget and again contradicts itself. For example, if a Government says that it is going to give priority to environment and decreases the price of kerosene the net effect of increasing the price of kerosene is to drive those who cannot afford alternative fuel to continue extensive mining of forests. This is a Government that cannot sacrifice forest and purport to be interested in environmental protection.

On poverty alleviation, there is nothing like alleviating poverty through a Youth Development Fund. That is cheap propaganda that cannot sell. That is something contemptible. The first step in dealing with poverty in this country is for the Government to invest in the rehabilitation of youth polytechnics, structuring the courses offered there and to do what it has been asked for a long time to do. The Government has been asked to take instructors of the youth polytechnic on to the payroll of Teachers Service Commission to guarantee them job security and enable them to continue working across the country. At a time like this when none of these measures has been considered, and all we are talking about is thanking His Excellency the President for his efforts in receiving money which has been extracted from parastatals and sugar factories by force, then we are just involved in an exercise in self-deception. Then we are just involved in the exercise in self-deception.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the creation of employment cannot be celebrated as Government success, when all we can point at is jobs in the Jua Kali and informal sector. This is due to two major factors. The Jua Kali sector in this country continues to be a victim of colonial by-laws which are reducing the security to invest significantly in areas where they operate. So, the Government which is presiding over the administration of colonial by-laws in the local authorities that harass the Jua Kali people, the Government which is responsible for the demolition of kiosks of the unemployed who are trying to earn a living, the Government which has failed to assist in up-grading the capital and technological base of Jua Kali has no business celebrating the success of Jua Kali sector. It should be ashamed of itself that in spite of its inability to assist this sector, the sector continues to grow.

Secondly, Jua Kali sector is expanding, because of the failure of the Government to expand formal sector employment opportunities, and should not be celebrated when it manifests failure of policy, instead of success of policy. There is a lot which has been said on the National Youth Development Fund which does not need any further repetition, but on education, at a time when the political and economic elite in this country have totally lost confidence in the public education system, when they have to take their children into a parallel structure gearing them for an un-local education system, at a time when our university students have turned the halls of residence into cooking rooms, where they cook the kind of food you usually find in the "middle east" around "Machakos Airport". At such a time, Government should have told its specific plans for re-overhauling the education system, instead of celebrating the gullible-mention-about school milk programme, or the despicable milk programme, without telling us how the Government is going to deal with the reversal in primary education levels in the country.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Muite: I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. One wonders why Kenyans continue to pay taxes to this Government which in my view has no moral authority of any kind, to bring a Budget to this House and ask this House, to give it authority to tax Kenyans.

One of the very fundamental issues about taxation is not merely that there must not be taxation without representation, but there must not be taxation without corresponding benefits. When one looks at the past budgets over the last couple of years against the Report of the Controller and Auditor-General, one cannot help concluding that, in fact, budgets in this country by this Government are meaningless. They might as well go and spend whatever money they want to spend without bothering to present budgets to this Parliament. This is because, there is no instance where this Government has obeyed the budgets. There is no instance in any year, where the expenditure by this Government has been in accordance with the Budget. They exceed each and every Vote, where they care to follow a particular Vote. Where they are not following a particular Vote, and that is more often the rule, rather than the exception, they proceed to spend money on any projects that are unbudgeted and the Budget itself is simply an exercise in futility as far as this Government is concerned. The examples are numerous. We have got the bullet factory, and the question which arises is when did this Parliament authorise the hundreds of millions of shillings that this Government is spending to construct the bullet factory in Eldoret?

If this Government can undertake such a major item of expenditure without the authority of this House, and without budgetary provisions, where is the moral authority to bring any budget to this House? Take an item like the Road Maintenance Levy. When this House approves a particular amount of money for a particular purpose, my understanding is that money which this House has approved for that particular purpose must be spent on that purpose, and on no other purpose. This Government has been collecting money from every litre of petrol.

It is not just the people who own cars who are paying the Road Maintenance Levy, but also, the people without

cars use "matatus". So, their fares reflect an element of that taxation. Even the old men and women in the country-side who do not board "matatus", and therefore pay no fares, go to the local shops to buy a tin of Kimbo, salt, sugar and so on. These items are transported to those local shops by vehicles using petrol. So, even those unemployed people who are buying these provisions are also paying this taxation. This Government has refined the art of hiding taxation indirectly in the cost of goods, especially petroleum.

But to come back to the Road Maintenance Levy, this House authorised that taxation in order for money to be raised for the maintenance of roads. The hundreds of billions of shillings that this Government has collected in the last couple of years by way of Road Maintenance Levy for every litre of petrol purchased, has not been spent on the roads. Had this Government spent that money on the maintenance of roads, our roads will be as good as any roads anywhere in the world. Instead, here in the City Centre, there are sections that are hardly passable. Anybody listening to Kenya Broadcasting Corporation will be told everyday to avoid Racecourse Road because of car congestion due to many potholes. That road is impassable.

This Government has been spending that money dishing it out to politicians to go around the country-side, buying electors, Opposition Members of Parliament and councillors in order to defect. So, were they to spend that money on the maintenance of the roads, not only would our roads be in absolutely first-class condition, but even the other roads would have been tarmacked. Today, we would be having kilometres and kilometres of more tarmacked roads if that money was used for the purpose that this Parliament passed it for. Even the side-roads and feeder roads would at least be made into all-weather roads. We are not even asking that every road should be tarmacked. Many Kenyans will be content if those roads are graded with murrum and quarry chips, so that they are all-weather. So, what moral authority does this Government have to, without blushing, come here and, in fact, increase the road maintenance levy? During the supplementary budget, the Government said that there was even a saving at Kenyatta National Hospital when everybody knows that there are no drugs in that hospital! So, for them, the Budget is merely a public relations exercise! It is a ritual for them to come and show that it is Budget day by reading here the so called-Budget, when there is no serious intention on the part of this Government either to keep within that Budget as far as expenditure is concerned or, indeed, to spend the money that is approved in the Budget, for the various projects that are set out in the Budget.

God willing, we will be here this time next year and it will be very interesting to keep this Budget on the Table and do an audit account of it to see the expenditure that this Government will have indulged in. This National Youth Development Fund (NYDF), which itself has not been approved by this House - it is not a legal entity - is just the starting point. We are told that the first allocation to it is going to be Kshs200 million. But I have no doubt that this is just a way of raising money for this Government to buy electors and electoral victory next year. So, the Minister for Finance is talking about Kshs200 million. It is another Eldoret International Airport! It started off with a very nominal figure. This is just a way of sneaking in this item in the Budget. By the time the elections are called, this figure will have gone up to Kshs200 billion. This is because this Government is determined to get money by hook or crook, and it is going to be by crook, for the next general elections.

So, the question arises: Does a Budget have any meaning whatsoever to this Government? The other day the Government announced that it was paying, and in fact it did pay, Kshs800 million to the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC). I am not saying that the milk farmers should not have been paid at all. If the KCC was properly run, it would not need money from the Treasury to pay farmers. This is because they get milk and sell it for cash. It is not sold on credit whatsoever. So, where is the necessity to take from the Treasury Kshs800 million of taxpayer's money to go and pay farmers? We know that the KCC has been made bankrupt by those who have been appointed to go and run it. When sons of top politicians in this country were busy milking the KCC dry, this Government never uttered a word. How is it that this Government is now busy telling the current Board of Directors how to run the KCC and how much money to pay to the farmers, merely because KCC members have elected a Board that they have confidence in and the Board is trying to do a good job? Why did this Government not speak out when the son of a top politician was stealing money from KCC and when the politically favoured were actually---

Mr. Mulusya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Hon. Muite has persistently talked about a son of a top politician who has stolen from the KCC. Can he be told to substantiate by saying who that son is?

Mr. Speaker: Order! First of all, it is out of order for any hon. Member to use the word "stealing". Secondly, I think his time is up.

The Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity---

QUORUM

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

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mulusya, what is wrong with you today?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is nothing wrong with me today. It is only that I want to draw the attention of the Chair to the fact that there is no quorum in the House.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I am afraid, it is the right of Mr. Mulusya to bring to my attention lack of quorum in the House, although I think it is good for an hon. Member to do so when he has not spoken. But the rule is that at any time an hon. Member may bring to my notice the fact that there is no quorum in the House. Mr. Mulusya is right that there is no quorum in the House. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

Order! Proceed, Mr. Kagwima.

The Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the opportunity that you have given me. First of all, I want to thank the Minister for Finance for the effort that he put in presenting the Budget here yesterday. In the circumstances, if we want to be fair, we should salute him for what he did.

However, I would want to highlight a few things including the so called growth of our economy. We have seen for the last two years, according to the economic survey, that our economy has grown by between three and five per cent. The inflation rate, we are told, has fallen to a one digit figure. I thought that the two should assist us in getting bank interest rates to come down. But the bank interest rates are still where they were in 1993, when the economy was said to be growing negatively. So, I would want to request the Minister for Finance---

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to seek the guidance of the Chair. When you were still in the Chair hon. Lwali-Oyondi crossed to this side from the other side without bowing to the Chair or going through the proper procedure.

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Lwali-Oyondi, did you do that?

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that was when the bell was ringing and it is perfectly in order to cross.

Mr. Speaker: Listen, Dr. Lwali-Oyondi, and listen very carefully. As long as the Chair is seated here and the Mace is in place, the authority of Parliament is constituted and thou shall obey it.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I apologise.

Mr. Speaker: Next time, do not do it. Very well, Proceed Mr. Kagwima!

The Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the growth of the economy and the fact that inflation has come down to one digit figure, ought to be reflected in the interest rates the banks are charging. In 1993, the banks were charging 25 per cent. They are now charging 31 per cent and above. That does not tally with the growth of the economy and does not also tally with the drop in the inflation figures. I would want to request the Minister for Finance, when replying, to tell us how the two relate because I did not understand them.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have had a very quick look at the figures in the Budgetary Supply and the figures I see allocated to the roads and in particular the roads in Tharaka Nithi---

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, Members! May I bring to the attention of all Members that what we are discussing now is the policy framework of the Budget; the Committee of Ways and Means. The policy upon which the whole Budget is based and that is where the Members are restricted to speak. When we come to the Committee of Supply, then talk about your local roads. For now, do not talk about your local roads, your dips and the rest. Speak on absolutely the policy of taxation and that is it. Proceed!

The Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir for your guidance. I had finished the first bit on the growth of the economy and the inflation rate. Looking at the growth in industry, for the industry to grow, we need to provide enough electricity in the rural areas so that people investing within or without the country can be attracted to go to those areas to invest and put up industries so that we can have a growth in that sector and create more employment and even create industrial items for our exports.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on balance of payments, we know that for quite sometime, Kenya has been straining and fortunately Kenya has met its commitments on external debts. But in future we ought to be careful that we do

not overburden ourselves. It is important to borrow, but it is also important to borrow wisely. It is easy when you are allowed to borrow, you can go on borrowing but whatever we borrow from now on, should be for projects that can generate money to be able to pay for those loans rather than borrow and then raise money from taxpayers and start servicing those loans.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the increase of the prices of petroleum products, it is important to raise money for our roads, it is important to ensure that the roads both old and new are properly done. But yesterday's increase of Kshs2 to Kshs3 a litre, I think is on the higher side because those passengers that will travel in the matatus and the buses will be forced to pay for the increase. The industrial sector will also be required to compensate or to recover the cost of acquiring the petroleum products for running the industries. What I expect is the products from those industries that will use industrial fuel, will be slightly higher than they have been in the past. As concerns kerosene, I also notice that people have misused the fact that it was cheaper than these other petroleum products, but the common mwananchi will take a long time to understand that there were other industrial users who diverted kerosene from domestic use to industrial use. So, I wish there could be a way of identifying those who buy kerosene for industrial use so that they are charged for that purpose and to have the mwananchi exempted from this taxation. There is no need of punishing mwananchi because a crafty industrialist has decided to divert kerosene from its intended use. So, the Minister should in future look for a very accurate way of separating the two; especially kerosene sold in the rural areas where we do not have as many industries as there are in the urban areas. Those buying from the rural areas could probably be exempted and a tax be introduced in the urban areas where this exemption is likely to be misused.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, looking very quickly at the Kenya Revenue Authority, I am happy to note that the Minister said that tax collection will be strengthened; that, the time limit has been reduced. We want to request the Minister to ensure that all the people that are supposed to pay tax, pay the tax. We want to request the Minister for Finance to look at those that import luxurious goods for nothing and ensure that they pay properly for those imports that they make. I know people have talked in the past about second-hand goods in this country. Our own people, some of them without knowing, are wasting money importing second-hand clothes and vehicles some of which have no spare parts. After a few months, those vehicles and items break down.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ndicho: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir for giving me this opportunity to say a few words concerning the Budget proposals that were presented yesterday by the Minister for Finance. This was a Budget that some people were heard saying that it was a bit fair. But those who were saying that it is fair are only those who are here in Nairobi. In the rural areas, the rural folk are very annoyed and upset that this Government is not considering and taking care of the very ordinary Kenyans in this country. This is in respect to the increasing of duty on petroleum products and especially kerosene. Over 80 per cent of the people who live in this country live in the rural areas and they use kerosene both for the lighting of their houses and also for cooking. When the price of kerosene was increased, those old women and men including my grandmother were very annoyed with the KANU Government and they were heard asking, when will the KANU Government go away so that these things do not recur? To make the matter worse, even the price of petrol, the only means where Kenyans use to travel from one point to another was also increased. This also resulted in the increment of bus fares from point A to point B.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we as the representatives of the people also have nothing to praise about the Budget. It was very bad and the Ministry and the Government should know that what they did is going to affect the smallest man in this country, and that never won this Government any vote at all yesterday. I was surprised that you were doing this at the corner of the next general election. But, we in the Opposition, are very happy that this Government is going to do bad things from morning to afternoon to evening. It is a boon to us, it is a boon to our politics because at the end of the day, it is this KANU Government which will lose and we are urging Kenyans to observe what the Government is doing to them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I listened to the Minister saying that the reason why he is increasing tax on kerosene is because of the industrialists who buy it in bulk and mix it with industrial fuel. If the Government knew that, why not go for those particular culprits instead of punishing the whole rural folk? The Government knows those who own these industries and use these industrial fuel. It was upon the Government to go for those particular people, but we know most of the people in this Government are involved and that is why they decided to share with the rural folk this tragedy. It is very serious, it is very annoying.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of road network in this country is very bad. From Thika to Muthaiga round-about, I normally spend 20 minutes to drive, but from Muthaiga to Parliament, I spend about 25 minutes, more time than from Thika to Muthaiga because of the potholes in this City. When we start driving from one point to another in the City of Nairobi, Thika town, Nakuru town, Kisumu town, Mombasa town is even in worse

state; roads are full of potholes and yet billions of shillings are collected from the petroleum levy. Where has this Government taken all the money that we have collected for the last two years since we introduced this road petroleum levy? This Government owes the people of this country an explanation as to what they do with the money they collect as taxes. They might not tell us now because they are in power but one day, and very soon, they might be on the receiving end explaining to Kenyans where they have taken all this money.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, transport is a crucial factor in development. If we go to the rural areas, roads are not spared. Roads there are not maintained at all. Tea farmers, coffee farmers, milk farmers and so on, are having their produce going bad in their farms because of poor road network in the rural areas.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order, just a few minutes ago, I advised hon. Members that we are in the Committee of Ways and Means, which means the ways in which the Government raises revenue to pay for the services it renders. It is not the question of grading or tarmacking roads, it is the policy that you have to direct your mind to now. If you want to talk about the bad state of tea roads and so on, wait for the Motion under the Committee of Supply of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Do you understand the distinction? So, talk about the policy.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our worry is that this policy which we also support that the Government should collect taxes from the people so that it gives services to the people is not being implemented. It is our concern that when the Ministries bring proposals and requests in this House, they shall get it and this is why we are wondering what happens to this money. Kenyans need to be explained and they are entitled to know.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order! I have not restrained you posing that question. I am just telling you not to go into the details of the management of the roads. You can pose as many questions as possible.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am much obliged!

If I may go back to the issue of raising the price of petroleum products, let me say this. The last speaker here talked about electrification and supply of power in this country. As we are talking now, after the Government did what it did in increasing tax on fuel, most areas in this country are suffering from what we call "power failures or power blackouts." In my constituency, Juja town, Ruiru town and Thika town are permanently on power blackouts. Everyday, from January to December, last year there was a lot of suffering. This has a lot of effect because those with industries are suffering a lot, for example, in Juja town and Ruiru town power goes off at 9.00 a.m. in the morning and comes back at 3.00 p.m. in the afternoon. All that period of time there is no economic activities that goes on in these three towns. And I believe this is also happening in other areas like Mombasa, Kisumu and even in Nairobi. At night from 7.00 p.m. up to 11.00 p.m. there is no electricity supply in some parts of Thika town, Ruiru and Juja towns. This is also the prime time that students and pupils do their studies. So what happens is that there is also a decline in performance in examinations. Sometimes we are made to suspect that this is deliberately done so that our students do not study well and possibly this is why they are not doing very well in the examinations. It is upon this Government to make sure that the revenue they collect goes to service these services all the time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other issue I would like to touch on before my time is over is about standardization of salaries. When the Government announces wage guidelines, the people in the urban and rural areas, there is a big difference of these salaries. Yet when we go to purchase flour, sugar and all these other commodities, the prices are the same. Why should some people in the agricultural centres; those in plantations be made less than other people who are working in the City, yet the commodities cost the same? I would call for standardization of salaries. Let there be as much equity as possible of wage guideline. It is important that the people of this country draw benefits from the revenue they contribute as much as possible.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to say something on yesterday's Budget.

I would like to start with the methods of taxation in this country. There are quite a number of businessmen, a large number, who go scot free by evading payment of tax. Sometimes they cheat, and in most cases, collude with some unscrupulous tax collectors. I would like to see this Tax Collection Act properly implemented so that everybody in this country, who is supposed to pay tax, is made to pay and also pay the correct amount.

Every peasant in this country relies on fuel products. When you talk of farming, you are as well talking of fuel, and when you talk of fertiliser, you are bringing in fuel. So, it was unfortunate that the amount of increase, as far as fuel is concerned, was a bit excessive, and we expect that the farmers are going to raise complaints. Once the farmers start complaining, then the Government is blamed. At the same time, we should also protect our industries. I think we have allowed too much liberalisation. For example, the Associated

Vehicle Assembly (AVA) has collapsed because we have allowed too much importation of *mitumba* vehicles into the country. I think there should be a limit as to how many vehicles should be allowed into the country, particularly the *mitumba* vehicles, so that we can protect our own motor industry, and the same applies to the textile industries in this country. The businesses of those who deal in textiles have gone down as a result of the high amount of *mitumba* clothes that are being imported into this country. There should be a limit on the amount of second hand clothes imported in this country. Otherwise, one day we might end up closing all our textile industries as a result of our liberalisation. So, I urge that this be taken seriously.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like now to turn to the National Youth Development Programme. This is a very important project, and I feel that the Kshs200 million that has been allocated to this particular project is too little. Why? This is because today in this country, we are looking for a way of creating jobs to be able to absorb all our school leavers right from primary to university because there are many of them who are "tarmacking" today and yet they are qualified to be employed. It is unfortunate that in this country, we are crying out for creation or establishment of new political parties and associations. In Kenya today, the crucial matter is the creation of jobs. In actual fact, what we need is the creation of additional jobs, not creation of additional political parties or associations. The Kshs200 million should have been tripled because this is going to help our youth be self-sufficient and self-employed. They will have something to do because they will be taught how to engage in horticulture for export purposes using water from dams. We can also assist them to engage in carving like the Akamba people by giving them money or the expertise. With this, they will be self reliant. Otherwise, one day we shall find them coming into this House to fight the Members of Parliament because they have not fought for their rights and creation of jobs into which they can be absorbed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, financial institutions in this country have escalated their interest rates. This does not help the ordinary person as we need to live in decent houses. We need to have houses for mortgaging in urban areas so that people can earn money by renting out their houses. We appeal to the financial institutions to reduce their lending rates because, presently, they are beyond the ordinary person's purse.

I hope that the money which has been voted for the roads in this country will be equitably distributed so that all our roads are made passable throughout the year. Currently, most of the roads are impassable during the rainy season and they should all be made all-weather roads. I agree that the Government cannot have enough money to tarmac all the roads in this country, but surely, making them all-weather does not make the Government spend a lot of money.

With those few words, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

Mr. Gitonga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute on this Motion.

I will start with the subject of the Youth Development Fund for which money is being raised all over the country. I know that some of the hon. Members on the other side of this House have accused the Opposition of not being interested in helping the youth. This is not true. If anything, Members on this side of the House are very keen to see that the youth of this country have something to do for their own good. However, we would like certain things to be done by this Government, if they have to convince even those youth that their desire for them is honest. As we know, the youth comprise of different groups in the community. We have school leavers at primary school level, at high school level and university graduates. In other words, among this lot, we may have youth starting from say, age 16 to 45 years. What youth are we talking about? As you know, when we are talking of youth who are school leavers at primary school level, perhaps their way or the subject of the project of their development would not be similar to those of the youth who have gone through high school. Neither will the case of the high school leavers be the same as that of those who have graduated from the university.

It is in view of this that we demand that a programme be designed before the collection of these funds is started. This will enable hon. Members to know the number of projects in their own constituencies for primary school leavers, high school leavers and for university graduates. If we are given that information when the funds are being collected we shall have no problem in encouraging our people to collect these funds. The other point is that even when these funds were being collected, we were not sure of what was happening. I am now happy that this has been shown in the Budget, that, K£10 million will be set aside for the National Youth Development Programme. Although the money is being collected around the country the Government is saying that this is not taxation. We have not been told who will be the custodians of these particular funds which are being collected. We are not being told whether these funds which are being collected in form of Harambee will be sent to the Treasury and be added to the K£10 million that has been set aside. If that is not the case, then in which account will this money be kept?

We have not been told that. We have also not been told who will be responsible for the disbursement of these funds. Who will be the signatory of this account? When will the money be sent to the youths? We have

not even been told how many youths the Government intends to help through the projects which we do not know. If we do not know where this money will be banked, or in which account this money will be kept or whether it will be part of that K£10 million then something is wrong. We have not even been told who will be signing the cheques which will be issued out to the beneficiaries. This makes us to become very suspicious of the whole programme. We know that many years have passed and yet this Government has never realised that the youths throughout the country have nothing to do. It is just now that they have realised this in 1996 because of the forthcoming general election.

We are very suspicious that the money being collected now in form of Harambee contributions will go towards the general elections so that KANU can get money to bribe the voters. It is because of this that we find it very difficult to see how the Government is going to help the youth because there is no programme for the youths as of now that has been planned. It is because they do not have programmes that we are saying we do not know where this money will go since there are no modalities on how to disburse it. We have not even been told whether a committee has been formed to handle this programme. We therefore, feel that it will be very dangerous for us to agree to this.

The other issue which I want to raise is on Road Maintenance Levy. We have noted that in the past, a lot of money has been collected but the state of the roads that were supposed to be maintained through Road Maintenance Levy has worsened. We feel that even when these taxes have been raised, perhaps, the situation will even be worse because there has been no improvement from the time when we were paying the toll charges. We thought there was going to be an improvement, but there has been none and we wonder now whether through the Road Maintenance Levy, there will be any improvements on the road conditions in our country. It is for this reason that the local people, in the rural areas feel that they are being cheated by the Government. If this situation continues, I can assure KANU that they stand very little chance to win the 1997 elections unless there is a change. For example, in my constituency, the road from Kiambu to Kimende has not been maintained for the last three years and it is full of potholes. I was expecting that since the people of Lari pay Road Maintenance Levy on every litre of fuel that they take, in Kerosene that they use for cooking and lighting, their roads would be maintained. In fact, it is impossible to use the most important road in that area.

It is because of this that the people feel cheated by this Government. Unless something is done, they will be very reluctant to vote for this Government again. Very soon, you may find that the people of this country will say that they will not pay taxes because they are not being served by this Government.

With those few words, I beg to support.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

[The Temporary Deputy Speaker

[Mr. Wetangula) took the Chair]

Mr. D.D. Mbela: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me an opportunity to support the Budget Speech which is really the responsibility of this House.

Firstly, I would like to express my disappointment about one issue that has had to occur only this morning. I am disappointed to note that there are no enough Members from the Opposition to take cognizance of this fact. It had to take the Head of State of this country to go to Kariokor which is an Opposition stronghold to supervise the collection of garbage. This has thrown a very serious challenge, not only to the Members of this House, but also to implementors, right from the Ministers to the entire Civil Service because the Head of State had to go to follow up a straight forward matter which should have been dealt with by councillors and staff of the City Council in a major city like Nairobi. I would, therefore, like to express my utter disgust because we have to be pushed to an area where this kind of thing has to happen.

Unfortunately, this is happening in many areas. Although I will be mentioning them as I continue with my speech, I do hope that Members on both sides of the House will take these matters seriously. Let us hope that they will make sure that once anyone has been given a responsibility, one discharges it with seriousness. This Budget is an important take off point for us to be able to tackle each Ministry when the time comes. We would like to stand here this time and say who is doing what and so on.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would not like to mention any specific persons in this case. But I would not feel that I am out of line if this House requests that both hon. Members of the Front Bench and the Public Service do their work. Particularly I will insist that hon. Members of the Opposition, in their specific areas, note that there has been a lot of problems in project implementation and we have public servants who do not seem to be playing their role. The issue of Nairobi is an extremely sad one, but all of us have seen today what can

happen when the implementors do not stand and start implementing what decisions that are made here, using the funds that are allocated.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, some hon. Members from the Opposition side have stood up and opposed the issue of the Youth Development Programme (NYDP). My colleague from my District, who is aware of the difficulties that we are having with the youth, particularly in areas which do not have coffee, tea and they do not grow food; they have literally nothing of economic value to live on and many of the arid and semi arid areas are in this predicament. We were delighted because we have all along been trying to find ways and means of being able to make these youth earn some kind of living so that they can have some decency with them as they go round. It is hard to see that an important issue like this which should have the backing of the entire House, should be singled out as being a KANU affair or somebody else's project and being called names. I would have thought that hon. Members would have stood up together and support this NYDP together. Circulars have already been issued, but I will, of course appeal that perhaps what we need from the Front Bench is a Sessional Paper to explain this to everyone. Otherwise who does not know that the youth in this country need help from every possible directions. Even from ourselves, we are doing it everyday. There is nothing to be ashamed of when the Government stands up and says, okay, let us put some money aside. I would have wished to appeal to the Minister for Finance to probably even request for additional funds from here before we close this debate, so that this money does not end being only K£10 million, but may be K£500 million. This would have probably be nearer the issue of helping our youth. This is the time for us to be able to sacrifice in some areas and target specific areas which can benefit this country or allow it to sink.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that we have something for the youth, I would have liked to see something for the women. Women have of late quite vigorously pursued their rights and I was expecting that perhaps some amount of money, may be like the amount that has been allocated to the youth, should have immediately been effected.

QUORUM

Mr. Gitonga: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It appears that we have no quorum.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): It appears or there is no quorum? Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! Continue, Mr. Mbela.

Mr. D.D. Mbela: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that some of my colleagues in the Opposition were not here when I was talking about the NYDP and also the women development programme which should have also followed. I was saying that I was expecting someone to request for the increase of funds for NYDP, and further allocation for the women programme as well; that should have been welcome so that we have another programme for women. We cannot afford to wait until we have formulated policies in two or three years, until this Parliament ends. We should be able to allocate funds immediately whenever we think that we have a serious problem and women groups at the moment which are well organised should be allocated some money by this House, to ensure that there is progress on women projects who are already doing a lot of good to this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one or two other aspects that need a lot of attention as has been mentioned by some of my colleagues is job creation. In this area, I can only mention that the question of allowing importation of cheap goods from other countries is going to be a very, very big problem. Something specific should be done about the question of controlling imports. Despite the fact that we have liberalised the market, there must be a limit to which you can liberalise the market.

When it comes to the issue of Education as one of my colleagues has said, the share of the cake is not being given to where it is needed. There are bursaries which have been issued and quite often there have been cases where bursaries have gone to areas where the students have paid all their school fees and the only thing that happens is that the head teachers or the BOG just have some extra money for them to be able to do other development projects when they can afford. There are very, very poor areas in this country where there are no sources of income at all and a few sources of income that have been existing have disappeared because of the vagaries of the weather.

One aspect that does not appear to have been given adequate attention is housing for the less endowed

members of our country who form 90 per cent of the population. Our people are living in shanties even in a major City like Nairobi. The only thing that we need is our architects to come up with good slabs that people can use to build good houses. There are countries like Israel and Bangladesh where people have been able to build good houses worth Kshs. 50,000 or even Kshs. 20,000 and this is an aspect where we tell the Ministry to come out with a specific policy and give a directive that housing worth so much should be designed by our architects both in the Ministries and in the architectural profession. They should design something that can actually be good for the poor and not just to say that they will build houses for some rich people to purchase. They should build good houses which the poor can afford. They are getting pushed further and further away from the City and many of us do not care about the poor. Sooner or later, some of us will find ourselves over there with whatever housing that we get.

Mr. Temporary Deputy, Speaker, Sir, the other one important area is the question of roads. I do not wish to speak so much on the roads. Some money has been allocated for roads but unless we allocate adequate funds for our road infrastructure, then this country has a serious problem of accidents, of delivery of goods from various places like the farming areas and even the non-farming areas are paying more because by the time the foods and whatever that is produced reaches these markets, they will have gone bad that the people cannot afford to pay for these goods.

One area that I thought Parliament should have looked at is the source of revenue for the local authorities. I think we did call something bad names when we used to have Graduated Personal Tax and it is Members of this very House that called it a colonial relic and we threw it away. As a result, several of the areas which have no service charge, coffee, tea or miraa cesses find themselves with no income whatsoever. If we had to go back and pay say Kshs. 100 per adult, whether male or female, some of these very poor organisations like the local authorities would at least have a small but sure source of income which they can make use of. We have called some things names which as a result, have left us completely without any sources of income. I would like to call for the revival of Graduated Personal Tax so that it can help those local authorities that have no income at all.

The final thing that I would like to say is about allocation of resources and diversion of allocated expenditure. We recently passed a Motion here that District Development Committees (DDCs), once funds are allocated to them, the funds should be remitted to those DDCs and we would like to see that happening and the Treasury and the Ministry---

With those few words, I support the Motion.

Mr. Shikuku: Asante sana Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Jambo la kwanza ni raia wajue kwamba kuna mpango wa kisirisiri wa kujaribu kuwashtua Wabunge ili wasiweze kuzungumza yale ambao wangeweza kuzungumza baada ya kujisomea vijitabu hivi vikubwa na wakati huu ni vinne. Kuna kitabu kinachoitwa "The Recurrent Expenditure" na kile kinachoitwa "Development Expenditure". Ni vitabu vikubwa vinne tulipokea jana usiku na leo tunahitajika tuzungumze katika Hotuba hii tukifikiria yale amabayo yako katika kile kitabu. Hii ni njia moja ya kuwafanya Wabunge waziweze kuzungumza wakijua kile wanatakikana kuzungumza kwa sababu hawakuwa na nafasi ya kutosha ya kuweza kusoma hizo vitabu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kitu cha pili ni kwamba Waziri wa Fedha ni lazima atueleze ni kwa nini alileta Bajeti kusomwa siku ya Jumanne. Miaka kwenda, miaka rudi tangu niingie Bunge hili, kila mwaka tunakuwa tukisomewa Bajeti siku ya Alhamisi na---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Shikuku, you raised that matter in the morning and the Speaker ruled on it. I do not see why you are revisiting it. You either talk about the Budget Speech or---

Mr. Shikuku: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, yeye alitoa uamuzi wake kuhusiana na kukosa uwezo wa kusema kwa nini ilikuja. Sasa mimi namshtumu Waziri huyu wa Fedha kwa kusema eti hana uwezo.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Who told you that the Budget must be read on Thursday?

Mr. Shikuku: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda hakusema eti lazima iwe siku ya Alhamisi. Alisema eti siku ya Bajeti si wajibu wake. Mini najua wajibu wa kuleta Bajeti ni wajibu wa Serikali na mimi nazungumza kwa hiyo Serikali, na sio juu ya Bw. Spika.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, hii ni kuwa kwa sababu tangu siku hizo tulijua Mbunge ni lazima apewe kimbele vile vijitabu vikubwa ambazo wengine wetu wamepokea asubuhi na wengine jana. Tungekuwa tumeshasoma na kuzungumza na wale waliotuchagua ili tukija tunajua kitu tutazungumzia. Leo hii ilikuwa ni "ambush" na ni lazima Waziri aambiwe na kwa sababu ni lazima tupewe nafasi ya kuzungumza. Jambo hili limeleta taabu ya Quorum kwa sababu wengi hawajasoma vijitabu hivi na kama wewe hujavisoma huwezi kuzungumza kwa maneno hayo kinaganaga.

Pili, hii Bajeti ya mwaka huu ni Bajeti ambayo haina matumaini kwa mtu mdogo. Kwa nini? Unapooonze bei ya petroli basi ushaharibu kila kitu. Hii ni kwa sababu nauli ya matatu itapanda na pia bei ya kusafiri itapanda. Kila kitu kitapanda na wanatuambia eti hii ndio Bajeti nzuri na ambayo itasaidia kufanya maendeleo. Itasaidia namna gani na hali inaua wananchi? Unapooonze bei ya diseli unaua nchi hii kwa sababu wakulima wataweza kutaengeneza mashamba yao kwa njia gani ilhali bei ya diseli imepanda? Na kama wakulima hawawezi kupanda chakula kinachoweza kutoshelesha nchi hii, njaa itakuja nchi hii. Kwa nini bei ya diseli imepandishwa? Na pia kila kitu cha wakulima kiko juu kama fertilizer, DAD, Ammonia na kila kitu kimepanda na wanataka wakulima waendeleo kulima na wakubwa wanaleta mahindi kutoka nchi za ng'ambo ili mkulima afilizike. Ni siasa ya Serikali hii kuona kwamba watu wanafilisika ili wawe waombaji na wakipewa kidogo wanapiga kura eti Nyayo juu, Nyayo juu zaidi na sijui wanakwenda wapi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo lingine ni hili: Wametia kodi ya 15 per cent mpaka 20 per cent za savings ya mtu. Je, hawa wanaweza kuweka akiba? Ule mshahara wanapewa unawekewa ushuru na baada ya kupigwa ushuru, nikiweza kuweka shilingi ishirini katika benki na tena ikipata faida huko, wanakata hiyo 20 per cent tena. The Kenyan people are the most highly taxed in the whole world. Hata wanapigwa ushuru kushinda hata Switzerland.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Na faida je?

Mr. Shikuku: Bw. Spika wa Muda, faida inayopatikana katika benki inaitwa riba lakini mimi najua ni faida.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Ni riba.

Mr. Shikuku: Ni riba. Haya hio pia inapigwa ushuru ya 20 per cent. Hii Serikali ni ya namna gani? Pesa hizi zote zinakwenda wapi kwa sababu barabara ni mbovu, kila kitu ni kimbovu, hakuna dawa kwa mahospitali, watoto hawawezi kwenda shule kwa sababu wazazi wa hao watoto hawana pesa ya kuwalipia karo. Sasa ni kitu gani binadam wa Kenya anapata? Kule Switzerland ukiwekewa kodi kama hiyo si mabaya kwa sababu hata ukitaka kupanda bus, unafanya hivyo bure bila kulipishwa. Hata Shikuku alipanda bus huko bure na wakati nilipotaka kulipa wakaniambia "It is alright and whenever you reach your destination, you just get off".

Tunatoa kodi ya huduma, na takataka imejaa Kenya yote. Sisi tunalipa kodi lakini hatupati faida yake. Ninayaunga mkono matamshi ya Waziri wa Habari na Utangazaji, aliposema kwamba Serikali hii ni ya wezi na walanguzi wa madawa ya kulevya. Nafikiri hayo ndiyo maelezo kamili ya Serikali hii; Serikali ya majambazi. Hatutavumilia wala hatutakaa hapa kusikia---

An hon. Member: It is Makau who said that.

The Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The fact that there was a report in the newspapers, does not mean that, that is an authority that it is to be quoted in this Parliament. Is it in order for him to say that the KANU Government is the Government of drug dealers and thieves?

Mr. Shikuku: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, sisemi jambo lolote. Wanasema: "You do not have to substantiate the obvious" Kama kuna general knowledge na iko katika maktaba, kama hajasoma, siwezi kumsomea. Nimesoma na ninazungumzia juu ya yale ambayo nimesoma. Na mhe. Nassir pia yuko hapa na aliunga hayo matamshi.

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, hakuna pahali pamoja niliposema kwamba KANU ina wezi. Nilitaja "matajiri," sikusema KANU! Matajiri hata kwenu Upinzani, wako zaidi kushinda kwa KANU.

Mr. Shikuku: Huyu Mzee amechanganyikiwa na akili zake, kwa sababu hakujuua anaunga mkono nini. Nilipoyasikia yale mhe. Makau alisema, hata mimi sikuweza kuyaamini masikio yangu, na mpaka leo sijamsikia akikanusha. Kwa hivyo, kodi tuko tayari kutoa, lakini---

The Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I suppose hon. Shikuku is supposed to be speaking on the Budget Speech. I know he started by talking about trouble which will come later in the Committee of Supply. Secondly, in which paper is it mentioned that the KANU Government is a Government of thieves? Can he tell the House where that is raised?

Mr. Shikuku: Mhe. huyu nitamsamehe, kwa sababu katika Bajeti, unaweza kuzungumza juu ya chochote chini ya jua kama hajui. Na yeye hajui hayo. Na ni juzi tu amekuja hapa, yafaa awe na adabu wakati Wabunge kama sisi tunazungumza. Habari juu ya kuweka akiba---

The Assistant Minister for Research, technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am greatly offended by that insinuation by hon. Shikuku, that "ni mjinga, hana adabu". I am a Member of Parliament and I suppose that is the way he is supposed to address me, rather than in

those offensive words. I will request that he withdraws.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hakuna Mbunge hapa ambaye hana adabu, Bw. Shikuku. Kila Mbunge ana adabu.

Mr. Shikuku: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kama yeye ni Mungu, hayo ni mambo mengine, lakini mtu yeyote anaweza kukosa adabu.

Habari ya NSSF--

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Kila Mbunge ana adabu!

The Assistant Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Mr. Kagwima): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mimi siongei mambo ya Mungu na mimi si Mungu. Lakini mimi---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): You do not have bad manners.

Mr. Shikuku: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, habari ya NSSF na ya akiba, NSSF imetumiwa vibaya. Pesa ambazo ni za watu wadogo wanaotoa jasho zinatumiwa na wakubwa vibaya. Sasa tunaambiwa kuwa tutakuwa na "refund", lakini pesa za NSSF haziwasaidii wale wanaofanya kazi kwa kuwajengea nyumba nzuri, kwa kuwasaidia hata kulipa karo ya shule kwa watoto wao. Hii Serikali inaendelea kunyamaza na kunyanyasa watu, na huyu Mbunge sidhani kama nitamwona katika Bunge hili wakati ujao.

Mr. Shamalla: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would start by congratulating the Minister for Finance for the Budget presented, especially its contents and promises of a better economy for the country. In as much as we all do welcome the promises, and have hope for a better Kenya tomorrow, it is my hope that we will be seeing, next year or the year after, good or better figures as far as the economic performance is concerned *per se*. It is my hope that the ordinary mwananchi will, in the years ahead, also feel that we will be better than we were last year. I am saying this because in as much as we may be doing very well economically, there is the concern that the wealth, the fruits of all this well-to-doness, may not be as well spread as we would all like. As long as we have many Kenyans who are hungry or without shelter, then our economic development or growth, does not mean much. While in the past we had parastatals, Government institutions that helped to alleviate the problems of the common man in one way or another, that made it possible for the poor Kenyan to have access to finance from other resources but because of the pressure of the international community and especially the financiers, we have been forced to liberalise, and to do away with these institutions for the good of Kenya as a whole, but yet we have these in-built problems brought by about liberalisation and about which we must attend fairly quickly, if most Kenyans have to feel that we benefit through a viable and economic Kenya.

I noticed in the Minister's observations that whereas we recorded reasonable growth in many sectors of our economy, very sadly, we recorded a 10 per cent drop in our agricultural output. This is a very serious matter, it is a matter that as a country we have got to address very seriously. No proud country can afford not to feed itself. Until recently, we have been able to produce enough food for all Kenyans and even have some to spare for export. But to see a decline in agriculture and particularly when we are so lucky to have a wonderful climate, people with resources and yet to see our agricultural production fall, it is a matter that should be viewed with great concern. In many countries in the world and particularly developed ones, the first area they have taken care of is agriculture. Industrialisation and other services do come long after agriculture of the country is well under control. It does not matter that a small percentage of the population in those countries looks after the agricultural needs of the country, but all the same, agriculture is given the priority it deserves. I would hate to see, or think of a day when we as Kenyans, will be unable to feed ourselves, and have to rely on imports from other countries including even our neighbours. It will be a shame because of the God-given advantage we have of a good climate and so on. In the good old days, we had what we called strategic reserves of maize, in particular, being the staple food in this country and I would like that we address this issue. This is something that we have to address quite seriously and not expose ourselves to the whims of having to import food as and when it is required.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I note again with concern the level of indebtedness that we as a country still have both externally and internally. The level is reduced compared to what it was the year before and what it was even two years back. It is still a very big ratio compared to what we think is a healthy economy. I would be grateful if the Minister will address this issue particularly next year so that we reflect a situation where we are not all that indebted. It is not very comfortable when a person owes so much to outsiders. We as a nation, we owe quite a big deal to the outsiders and a lot of our generated revenue still ends up in having to pay for what we owe others both externally and internally.

The question of high interest rates as far as banks are concerned coupled of course with very low interest paid on deposits, is a matter that has been talked about again and again. While we can decry the issue as far as the private commercial banks are concerned, the question is: What are our own national banks doing; the Kenya Commercial Bank and the National Bank of Kenya? Why can they not set an example? Why can these banks not

lower the interest rates charged on customers? If they do this, naturally, they will attract more business and naturally the other banks such as Barclays, Standard Chartered and so on will follow suit. Unfortunately, we do no longer have much control over those institutions because we are letting them compete in the market. Let them show more of nationalism here. We are not asking them to make losses but instead of charging a client 30 per cent on his overdraft and when the same client deposits a Kshs100,000 he is paid 15 per cent, why can they not charge him 20 per cent? Why can they not pay his interest at 17 per cent? Those are our banks and they are the ones to make the lead. We cannot go on crying and blaming the other banks for higher charges because these other banks are our own banks.

I support the concept of the Youth Development Programme. It is true that we may not have had the time to address ourselves to this issue fully as to how it will operate but we have time to start before we disburse the funds. We have to start somewhere and it is my hope that through practical application and implementation of that programme, we will have something for a long time to come.

With that, I beg to support.

Mr. Maore: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make a few comments about this National Youth Development Programme that has been squeezed into the Budget to legitimize a political manoeuvre that has been put forward before enough thought has been put into it. We have a lot of other grandiose projects that this Government had conceived but they have never come to any benefit to this country. The National Youth Development Programme has never been thought out or polished by the policy makers in this country on whom we depend for sound policies. I will just mention a few examples. We have the Nyayo Bus which was an idea that was conceived out of excitement and not after thought. The Nyayo Tea Zones was conceived for the same purpose. We also have the School Milk Programme and we did actually con the entire world when we launched the KEMRON claiming that it would cure AIDS but it never came up to anything.

There was also the Nyayo Pioneer. These five examples summarise what the National Youth Development Programme is going to be like. The idea to collect money and then go and think what to do with it, is extremely reckless by a government. If the ruling party is so concerned about the young people, the best idea would be to make education affordable for all. It would make it possible for these people to get jobs. That is the only way out of this problem. As the Chinese say: "If you teach a man how to fish, you feed him for life but if you give him a fish, you feed him for a day". Whoever is thinking of getting the young people on alcohol for three weeks or the 21 days that are required in the next general elections and then get their votes, that is conning an entire generation and it is an unforgivable sin.

Another issue that was put forward by the Minister is that of trying to be noncommittal on the debate that has been coming up on the issue of the Asians. Even in the Bible it is said, "Those who are neither cold nor hot will not go to heaven". The Government through the Minister's statement did not commit itself to what it wanted to say. Instead the Minister brought in a defensive statement that: "it should not be an issue by any political party".

The africanisation of the economy has been put five steps backwards in the last 15 years. The rise of Asians has not been accidental. They have been parading in State House or wherever there is a harambee, donating money for His Excellency to donate to whichever project he would like. This Government and the Ministry of Finance should take the lead and dismantle the monster they call the consolidated bank. It was conceived at a time when they wanted to destroy a certain community and they nearly brought the entire economy on its feet. A lot of young people cannot get any credit without some strange requirement by either the Standard Bank or the Barclays Bank. At the time when they destroyed these indigenous banks, several key businesses related to banks rose up. Although I do not want to mention anything adversarial in my debate, but ruling elite were able to come up in partnership with many of these Asians, so that they could also dominate the economy. As a result, many problems arose.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country has been turned by these banks into a trading economy, whereby there is nothing much coming out from the economy because there is no production that is being supported by these banks, but instead, they only go for those quick loans for imports and exports. That is why you see there is a lot of excitement on the short-term overdrafts and others facilities in the local banks, mainly owned by Asians.

The other issue that I want to address is the one that the Government has of late, tried to sweet-talk us by promising action on corruption. Talking about corruption will not wipe it away. Doing something about corruption is the issue that the Government needs to address. Key institutions in the country have been tarnished with shameful corruption. For example, when you talk about the provincial administration, you have chiefs and DOs who are collecting money, for example, for the current Youth Fund, but they will never take this money when the main Harambee, will be held. You will not be surprised to find that the chiefs and the DOs are the greatest

shame of this Government at the grassroot level. They are dishonest and apply strange laws that are not in our books.

I pay a lot of tribute to our courts in respect of what was reported in the newspapers yesterday. The former Kiambu DC and the District Chief Intelligence Officer wanted to hijack hon. Icharia for a few hours, harass and torture him. The courts found that they were doing it outside the law and ordered them to pay hon. Icharia for the damages he suffered.

Another institution that has been tarnished with corruption is the Department of the Commissioner of Lands. If we keep on talking about corruption, that is not going to help us. Let us see some action being taken. You find it very strange and laughable when the same people who are involved in dishing out public land illegally and without any consideration to posterity, coming out in the open and even advertising in the newspapers saying that they are concerned about the irregular allocations of land and the public losing land. Not very long from now, we are going to have members of the public taking the law into their own hands. For example, when people go and take over public toilets---

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You heard the hon. Member saying that the land is allocated illegally, and yet, there are rules and regulations that govern the allocation of land in this country.

Mr. Maore: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Cap 280 empowers the Commissioner of Lands to sign and transact business on behalf of the President. He has compromised the Government to the point that even very sober men like hon. Sumbeiywo are forced to defend something that is so funny.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another department that needs to be addressed to, is the Immigration Department. If you go to Nyayo House, you will find very few aliens looking for work permits and citizenship papers. Instead, you will find very many Kenyans who have turned out to be brokers and there is massive corruption in this department. People, especially from the Asian Sub-continent are coming in their thousands per year, and come with money to pay our men in Nyayo House so that they can acquire work permits, even though they do not speak English or Swahili.

The other issue concern: departments like the Kenya Ports Authority, whereby we had the Government moving in very quickly to try and create some transfers and imbalances here and there. **[Mr. Maore]** In essence, that was actually meant for public relations consumption. We need to wake up. I want to promise this House that all those prosecutions that are being done will never be concluded. We want to see the Government being very serious about the issue of corruption. If you do not address it now, it will be too late. The nation is bleeding under this cancer of corruption.

With those points, I want to end there.

Mr. Githiomi: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to the Budget which was read yesterday.

With regard to the National Youth Development Programme, let me say that it is a disaster because we can see that it is a gimmick which is being used by KANU, to solicit funds for the 1997 general elections.

What the youth needs is not necessarily funds for projects which have not been even identified. The youth are in trouble. They need employment. I would suggest that the best way to go about this problem, is to think of building industries, particularly agricultural based industries. Kenya is an agricultural country. There is a place like Ol-Kalou where big food processing industries could be built by the Government. These industries could absorb a lot of school leavers like university graduates, Form IV leavers and even Standard VIII leavers. They will all get jobs in such industries. It would be wise for this Government to think of building such industries in various places where---

QUORUM

Mr. Moiben: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is there a quorum in the House?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): No. We do not have a quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Mwangi, continue.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it would be good if the Government embarked on a

big programme of building industries to absorb the youth in terms of employment and also create markets for the agricultural products, instead of it just talking of the National Youth Development Programme, whose projects have not been identified.

As pertains to second hand clothes, it is necessary for the Government to allow massive importation of second hand clothes. This is because most of our countrymen depend on second hand clothes or mitumba. Even some Ministers in this House wear mitumba! Also, importation of mitumba creates employment. Very many people are employed in the area of second hand clothing. So, people should be allowed to import second hand clothes. In fact, import duty on second hand clothes should be waived. That is the only way in which we can create employment for as many of our jobless people as possible.

Tariffs on imported commercial vehicles like mini buses should be specific. If the Government decides to waive excise duty it should do so in respect of all mini buses without basing conditions of the waiver on the seating capacity. It is general knowledge in this country that mini buses imported into this country are used either for matatu operations or by tour operators. In both cases, excise duty should be waived. Decision on this matter should be made in this House and not left for customs officers to take. This is because it creates another avenue for corruption. Customs officers ask for money so as to determine whether excise duty is payable on a mini bus or not. That decision should be taken in this House without any further delay because our people are really suffering. They are paying a lot of money which does not go to the Consolidated Fund: It goes to people's pockets.

As for the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), it is necessary for the Government to give it autonomy. It should be autonomous because workers should be given a free hand to elect the directors of the NSSF. The directors of the NSSF should also be let free to employ chief officers. This is the only way in which we can curb corruption within the NSSF. Money collected from workers does not help them. Instead, it goes to the pockets of the privileged few. It goes to the pockets of corrupt Government Ministers and civil servants, instead of helping its contributors.

The Petroleum Levy Fund was introduced by an Act of Parliament way back in 1994. But this money has not helped those who contribute it. Instead it is believed to have been used to buy plots from KANU hawks. About Kshs8 million has been used in Nakuru to buy a plot from a KANU hawk, yet this money was meant to repair roads. Roads have a lot of pot holes and continue to be in a deplorable condition, contribution of money to this Fund notwithstanding. This money should go direct to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. That is the only way in which the money can be controlled. We need that money to be used on our roads.

Back in my constituency, roads are in a deplorable situation. A lot of this money could---

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Keah): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could hon. Githiomi substantiate that Kshs8 million paid for the purchase of a plot from a KANU hawk came out of Government coffers? That is what he alleged and I would like him to substantiate it.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no need of the Assistant Minister being very much annoyed because I will substantiate that statement on Wednesday next week. I commit myself to substantiating it.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Githiomi! This is the time you are contributing. You will not have a second chance to speak on this Motion. You said that Government funds amounting to Kshs8 million, was used to purchase a plot from a KANU hawk. You could not have said that if you did not have the facts!

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have the facts; it is only that I do not have them here with me. I will produce documentary evidence on Wednesday next week, if you allow me to do so.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Githiomi, you will substantiate here and now as demanded by hon. Keah.

Mr. Githiomi: It is unfortunate that we have so many hecklers in the House from the KANU side, but I will continue.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Mwangi! There is no heckler here! Hon. Keah has asked you to do a very simple thing. You have made a statement of fact and he wants you to substantiate it. It is so simple. I have ordered that you do so here and now.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I am saying is that I am not unable to substantiate this fact. If I am given up to Wednesday, I will bring documentary evidence to substantiate what I have said. That will pin my challengers down!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): I am saying you must withdraw here and now.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not have those papers here, but on Wednesday,

I will bring the papers.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Well, the logical thing for you to do is to withdraw.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a statement of fact, so I cannot withdraw. I will substantiate that on Wednesday next week. It is a statement of fact and I will substantiate this by documentary evidence on Wednesday next week. I am prepared to do that.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Do you know the Standing Orders, Mr. Githiomi?

Mr. Githiomi: I know, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): You are presumed to take full responsibility of the facts you allege here. You intended to speak on this, you had those facts with you and I see no reason why you should ask for Wednesday next week, not even tomorrow. That means you are not ready to substantiate and you have to withdraw.

An hon. Member: Kama hutaki, nenda nje!

Mr. Githiomi: I do not think we have more than one Temporary Deputy Speaker in this House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): The Temporary Deputy Speaker is only one.

Mr. Githiomi: The Temporary Deputy Speaker, is only one, so you should tell them to keep quiet. I have the Floor. My statement is very clear that I am not de-obligating myself from substantiating what I have stated in this House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): The Standing Order No.76 which you ought to know states that:-

"A Member shall be responsible for the accuracy of any facts which he alleges to be true and may be required to substantiate any such facts or to withdraw his allegations with a suitable apology if Mr. Speaker, so requires."

I am not even requiring you to apologise. I am saying that I am satisfied that you are unable to stand to the challenge of Mr. Keah and you withdraw.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): The fact we are arguing about is a point of order. Order! I am only dealing with Mr. Githiomi.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am asking for up to Wednesday to bring documentary evidence to prove to him that what I am saying is true and it is factual. That is what I am asking. I am not asking too much because I will bring these papers and I will pin him down.

I am asking for more time up to Wednesday and I will pin him down in this House; I will do it because I know this has been done. This is not a statement in futility.

The Assistant Minister for Finance (Mr. Keah): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he made that statement here and he is responsible for that statement. I demand that information here and now.

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Mr. Maore! Mr. Githiomi---

Mr. Githiomi: I am not de-obligating myself from the responsibility of the statement. All I am asking for is to be given time up to next Wednesday to come with documents to prove that the fund has been used to purchase a plot in Nakuru and this plot belonged to a KANU hawk who had also acquired it fraudulently. I will prove that on Wednesday.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Okay, Mr. Githiomi, if on Wednesday at 9.30 a.m you do not produce the documents to prove your allegations, I will order that they will be expunged from the record of the House, and your time is up.

Mr. Githiomi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

Mr. J.N. Mungai: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can see that the KANU side does not want to participate in this debate. They want to discontinue the debate prematurely. Anyhow, that is not what I had.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we heard the Budget Statement yesterday and today I believe it has been the talk in the whole country, the way the Budget Statement appeared. Over the years we have seen budget statements read, figures placed, and the Minister of Finance also suggesting how he intends to raise some certain funds to be able to meet some needs that are demanded socially by the Kenyan public. What is most worrying is, last year we read a big Budget that was going to meet the needs of Kenyans, but when you look at the social demands of Kenyans and try to find out whether anything was done with the last year's Budget, you find, nothing

was done. What will make us convinced that what was read yesterday will have to come into practice? If you look at our roads, our health care, the water supply system, all the social requirements of the people of Kenya, nothing seems to be improving at all despite the big Budgets that have been read in this House. Our big question today is, are these figures just imaginary figures to satisfy the nation that a Budget has been read or are they really serious? Is there anything we can say is tangible in terms of such big finances? To this minute, I say no. Last year with the introduction of the Petroleum Levy which was meant to maintain the roads, if today and I believe that is what we are going to demand from the Minister for Public Works and Housing--- If we demand from him to give us a schedule of the roads that were maintained with such huge amounts of money that was earned from the Petroleum Levy, I am sure that the Minister will not give us anything tangible that was done with the kind of money that was contributed last year through the Petroleum Levy. He will only stand up to cook up answers here telling us such and such roads were repaired. But despite the fact that KANU Government has always claimed that they will develop the KANU zones and will not develop the Opposition zones because we are not supporting KANU, I am certain that even in KANU zones--- I would like to say even in your own Bungoma District, even in hon. Keah's Kilifi District, even in Baringo District or Nakuru District where the President comes from, if you look at the state of roads there, they are really pathetic.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): You are now debating an imaginary vote on the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. We are debating, in the Committee of Ways and Means, various methods of raising public revenue.

Mr. J.N. Mungai: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am debating the---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): You know very well that after this there is going to be an allocation of time for each Ministry and you will be given an opportunity to talk about the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing and all the rest. So, you are jumping the gun.

Mr. J.N. Mungai: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am just---

An hon. Member: When was that?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Before I took the Chair.

Mr. J.N. Mungai: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, well I do not know what ruling you made, but what I am saying is, I am relating the Budget to what is supposed to be done by that Budget. Even yesterday, something to that effect was touched on so what I am---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): I am only giving you a general guidance on the tenure of your debate which you ought to--- You are a very old Member of this House.

Mr. J.N. Mungai: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I am aware of that fact, but all I am saying is that I am unable to speak on a Budget like this one without citing examples. Part of what I am saying on road maintenance is what has particularly disturbed me. I may have to touch on a lot of things. But what has made me to question any budget that has been brought into this House is partly the road maintenance in this country. It is so because if you look at the road carnage in this country, though partly we are blaming the over speeding by the drivers, but the road carnage in this country has very seriously been caused by the poor state of our roads and this is why I am feeling so concerned that as I talk about this Budget in this House, I must mention some of those things that have really disturbed us. If you go to Kenyatta Avenue in the City of Nairobi or Moi Avenue, there is a pothole there which we must question why it is there. It should be seen spotted and immediately sealed.

When we talk about improving our economy, how do we improve the economy when you look at the behaviour and activities of Government in terms of giving out the Government's properties to individuals. That will not help. When I mention the "properties of Government" I mean the plots that belong to Government. Government houses have been allocated to individuals.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government houses have been allocated to individuals. Why are they allocated to individuals while we know that such activities will make the Government go back to the coffers, dig deeper into the pockets of the poor people looking for funds to rent houses for the Government servants? This should not be happening. It should not be happening because if we retain these houses and those we think are condemned, and reconstruct them, definitely, in the long run, we would be saving the poor mwananchi from being over-taxed.

Whatever the Government is trying to say in terms of the Budget, in terms of improving our economy and so on, to me and I am sure to majority silent Kenyans, it is just nothing, but flattery. I would say it is flattery because why should private developers be given opportunities to take over Government properties whereas the Government has the power, energy and resources to redevelop those properties and then give them a long lifespan and, therefore, save it from digging deeper into the tax-payers' pockets?

I am even wondering right now what will happen now that we are talking about improving the economy. Look at the parastatals, for example, Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC), it is in total danger and when you ask yourself why is this happening nobody is going to answer you. I am saying this because I have to keep relating to areas that affect the ordinary mwananchi. For example, look at the KCC, there is a war today between the new KCC directors and the Government, whom the other day, the Government assisted and even directed that elections should be held in KCC to either retain the old directors or get new directors who would come and improve the KCC. If we look at the KCC as an organisation and the Government, it is as if the Government and KCC are at war. Why are they at war? The new management has been brought to improve the management of such organisations so that they can improve the earnings of the ordinary farmers. But today instead of this new management being encouraged by the Government, it appears to be fighting with it. This leads the Government to be condemned so much and there is no way the Government can lie to anybody in this country that they are doing anything to assist farmers to improve their economic activities.

I am just wondering why the Government cannot tell us where Kshs1.9 billion went. I believe this is why the Government appears to be fighting with the new directors so that they are discouraged from taking measures, to investigate and expose all those who are responsible for taking away Kshs1.9 billion belonging to the farmers.

This is why I am saying that if we are serious about improving this economy, we must also be serious about the management of the economy in this country, otherwise, we cannot pretend to say this and yet what we do is totally the opposite. This is what the KANU Government is doing today. There is nothing they will ever do and be really positive. They will say so many things today, but indeed, if you look at their activities, they are quite the opposite. This is why I am saying, unless something is done and the Government is really serious about it, then there is no way it is going to rebuild its confidence. A lot of funds in this country are being spent to "buy" KANU supporters. Such people are, members of public, civic leaders, hon. Members of this House and so on. That kind of activity will not help anybody. It will not improve anything in this country, instead, what will continue happening is that people will continue developing an apathy that will not help but rather destroy the confidence we have in our country.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Mr. Lengees): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute towards this very important Motion on the 1996/97 Budget.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Minister for Finance and his team of experts for presenting to Kenyans a very fair Budget. Before I go any further, I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate His Excellency the President of this country for steering the country towards prosperity and peace. That is why we were able to be presented with such a very important Budget for Kenyans yesterday. We cannot do much without peace and the Budget would not have been presented in such a peaceful atmosphere. I also take this chance to say a little bit about how the Budget was presented.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that the Budget is not only for KANU side as is being alleged by our colleagues in the Opposition. They seem to be pointing at us saying that the Budget was, maybe, favouring us or it was prepared by KANU and that it will not benefit the country. The Budget is there to benefit the common man and there are only three points which the Ministry of Finance has to consider before preparing any Budgets in the coming years or before doing anything concerning the Budget. The first person to be considered before preparation of any Budget is the common man because a higher percentage of the population falls in this category. In future, I would like to urge the Ministry of Finance to ensure that they prepare a Budget for the common man, a budget that helps a person who earns very little money.

As I said earlier, the budget is not for a particular party. It is also important for the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), which was established recently, to ensure that it collects taxes which will benefit many social sectors like roads, education, health, and water because those are the social requirements of a Kenyan today. If a road is well maintained, then it is easy for the people to move from one area to another. Once water is available, people will then devote more time on other daily activities without much problems. If education at institutions are properly financed, then the education system will be easily implemented in the areas required. I would like to thank the Minister for Finance for allocating additional funds for the Ministry of Health. This shows that he gave an upper hand to this Ministry as our hospitals require a lot of funds. However, there are areas which the Minister has to consider in future, and these are the Mission hospitals which who are rendering better services to the wananchi in terms of health. I know that in my own area, Catholic Missionaries have built proper health facilities. For example, there is a hospital known as Rwamba Missionary Hospital, which caters very well for people of that area in terms of health. I would like to take this opportunity to request the Ministry of Finance in

future, when they are planning, to see whether they could supplement the Catholic Missionaries' efforts by giving them more money in order to run such beneficial medical facilities, which offer better medical services, not only for Samburus, and the Northern region, but also for the whole country. They should not provide money for the road maintenance only but also for health facilities.

It is also important if the Ministry of Education was considered so that secondary education could be affordable through the bursary fund. Most Kenyans all over the country have problems of paying school fees. Some poor families cannot afford to send their children to secondary schools for two years. So, it is important for the Ministry of Education to increase the bursary facilities in each district and even device a method of making each district get adequate money under the bursary scheme.

It is also important for the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development to find ways of raising revenue. Most water pumps used in boreholes break down on several occasions. The Ministry should look for funds and let the people manage the equipment in these sites so that people can have money to buy spare parts or diesel whenever the need arises. At the moment, the Ministry is not able to repair water pumps or any equipment meant for water supply in many parts of the country. So, it is incumbent upon the Kenya Revenue Authority in conjunction with the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development to device ways of raising sufficient revenue at the district level or at the borehole site so that the communities could be able to maintain particular boreholes.

On the issue of roads, as an hon. Member did say here that the roads in many parts of the country are in a pathetic state. We will be able to debate that one when they bring their Vote here. At the same time, it is important for the Kenya Revenue Authority or the Ministry for National Planning and Development to put roads as a priority whenever they are preparing the Budget every year. By so doing, more roads will be tarmacked and especially those leading to the district headquarters so that wananchi could travel to these places with ease. The roads in the rural areas should be upgraded so that wananchi can reach schools and dispensaries without problems.

On the issue of the country's security, it is important also to allocate more money towards the security of this country. It is important for every police divisional headquarters in the country to have good vehicles and other facilities that are required for the security of this country. Without proper security, we could not be seated here to listen to the 1996/97 Budget Speech. It is important for us to allocate more money for the security of this country as we do in the areas of health, education and water.

On the issue of the National Youth Development Fund, I would like to take this opportunity to thank his Excellency the President of this country. He has really thought and considered the plight of our youths. Maybe, after the Harambee for the National Youth Development Fund next month, we may have to think about the plight of women because these are important segments of our society. I do not support the Opposition Members of Parliament when they claim that that money is going towards financing the 1997 general elections for KANU. That is not true. It is going to the youth and I congratulate the Ministry of Finance for allocating money to supplement the President's efforts. Even when we organise an Harambee to assist women, the same amount of money should be allocated because they play an important role in the development of our families and this country.

It is also important for the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry for Planning and National Development to think of how they could create jobs for the youths of this country. There are so many school leavers and graduates today who cannot get employed.

It is important for the Minister for Finance also to have set aside such funds to see how they can support such useful young people to make them have employment opportunities. It is important also to have a yearly programme for the youth the way His Excellency the President started this year. We are fully supporting this programme even from the district level and we will be considering holding Harambees for the youth supporting the same thing every year from now.

Thank you, very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I support the Budget.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Morogo): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to make a few comments on the Financial Statements presented by the Minister for Finance yesterday.

First, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Budget was balanced and well thought. The Budget gives a realistic point of view of the situation at the moment. Let me touch on the youth because I know that is the concern of very many people. We know the youth as the unfortunate members of our society at the moment. But I would like to congratulate the Minister for Finance and the Government for setting aside Kshs 200 million towards the NYDP. This is something which any leader should support because we cannot say that our youth can only be okay if they are on office employment. The idea is to create self-employment and this is a

sure way of putting our youth into useful positions in nation building.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I notice that hon. Members of the Opposition are against this Programme. I am not surprised because their fear is very simple. Their fear is the popularity that KANU will gain. All the time they talk about it in a negative manner not because this is not a good project, but because they think KANU will be very popular and that is something difficult and hard for them. But this is a reality and KANU is a foresighted Party, and as a Government, looks ahead and wants to plan what is good for its citizens. This project should be supported by everybody. I reckon that some of the hon. Members cannot support it because they are not prepared to go back home and organise something for their youth. But this is not something that we should be blamed on and it is just unfortunate. If they do not want to participate, let them sit here in Nairobi. There is no problem, but the Government is prepared to assist the youth with or without their support.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we realise in Kenya that all the people are not the same given that some of our provinces or certain areas of our country, have better facilities than others. In some of them, even the youth are already engaged in some business or activities of one kind or another. This programme is geared towards assisting those who are not in a position both in monetary terms and resource-wise to be able to engage in activities that would assist them. We should assist and support that. I am glad that the Budget took cognizance of that issue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also pleased that the Minister for Finance has increased allocation for bursaries for secondary schools. We know that many Kenyans today have a lot of problems in meeting the school fees and other requirements, and it is the duty of the Government to assist where it can. We are talking realities here. I reckon that some of the hon. Members want to blame the Government, but when we look around the world today, we know that there is a big problem in meeting all the obligations elsewhere.

Kenya cannot be blamed for the problems that are existing even worldwide and this is why the Government is taking steps to assist its people and I am glad that this Budgetary measure is in place so that those members of our society, particularly those whose parents do not have means to assist their children in secondary schools will be assisted through such bursaries. I will only request the Ministry of Education to equitably distribute these bursaries and particularly consider areas where the numbers of those who are unable to meet the fees are more.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also happy to note that the Budget has considered increasing money for the rural infrastructure. We know that many of our people live in rural areas and these are the people who we depend upon for food production. I would like to encourage our people to work hard in their farms so that we can improve our economy and our people can only do that when infrastructure is in place to assist them to be able to engage in such activities. We know that the roads in rural areas are in bad shape and I am glad that the Minister has taken that into consideration. He also mentioned that he has increased the budget on water which is very commendable.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, sir, I know that the common man in this country will feel the effect of the increase in kerosene and petroleum products in general but I think we have a duty as leaders to educate our people. We have a duty to tell our people some of the inevitable things. We have to tell them that some of these steps have to be taken if we have to fulfil some of the aspects of life and the management of the resources that we want to put in place so that our people are able to do what they want to do and uplift their standards of living.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has also taken steps to enhance revenue control. I know many of us talk about misuse of public funds but I know the Government has many a time taken steps to correct this situation but I know many would not like to recognise that. The realities are that the Government has taken steps towards better control and better management of revenue that is collected. That is a good move and it is for us to give the necessary assistance so that the Government can fully implement such measures.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members in the Opposition would like to blame the Government for failing to manage funds fully. Let us realise that those in the Civil Service, those working for the Government, are not all KANU followers. We have Opposition sympathizers within the Government and these are some of the people who would sabotage some of the Government policies and implementation of projects that the Government has put in place to alleviate poverty in order to assist the people to improve their standards of living. This gives the opportunity to these hon. Members in the Opposition to shout all the time that the Government is not doing anything.

I have said in this House before that before we get blamed, let us get the opportunity to clear the Government of those sympathizers of the Opposition, so that we can take the blame 100 per cent if we were to be blamed on this. But otherwise, everyone should understand that within the Government there are those who want to work for the Government's downfall from within. Otherwise, I think we should encourage our people, we have seen some nations which have moved in a short period from a developing country status to a developed country

status. I do not see any reason why Kenya cannot do that. The only problem is that we are not very realistic, we only want to talk about our parties, and our tribes which is not good for this country. Let us talk as Kenyans, let us sit and discuss what is good for our people, because at the end of the day, we will be one people in one country and it is important that all of us put our heads together and work for the betterment of this country. I am sure and believe that we can achieve that.

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

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. First, I would like to record my thanks to the Minister for Finance for this particular Budget Speech. My thanks are only limited to the extent that the Minister does appear to recognise the problems that this nation is facing, not so much to the extent that he knows how to solve those particular problems. I know that he recognises that there is poverty and growing poverty that the people of this country are faced with. He tells us that vigorous training programmes have been initiated both in the urban and rural areas especially to improve the economic status of women. I am only happy that he does recognize that hardly anything has been achieved. But when he goes further to say that he has put aside Kshs160 million for particular poverty targeted programmes, I wonder which programmes these are that he has targeted. I expected that the Minister for Finance would pursue the scheme that is called the Rural Enterprise Fund.

The KANU Government has its own peculiar tricks of coming around with certain funds when elections are drawing near, which they think will popularise it. In 1992, it was the Rural Enterprise Fund to which a lot of money was put from the Treasury. I think at that particular time, at least, if Bungoma District is anything to go by, each constituency was given about Kshs2 million to give to some people in the rural areas to help improve their economic status. Now the Minister does not want to pursue that scheme; he is silent about it. But he goes on to a ridiculous thing which he calls the "National Youth Development Fund," and instead of saying that this is the thought of the KANU Government, they want to make it appear as if it is the head of State's initiative, and separating the Head of State from the Head of the Government, I do not know for what particular purpose that is done. So, it is said that K£10 million has been set aside for that particular Fund. If you take into consideration that there might be, by the next General Election, 210 constituencies, then divide the Kshs200 million by 210 constituencies, you will find that each constituency will be getting under Kshs1 million. And then you say that this is going to help the youth in that particular constituency to find employment for themselves. Nothing could be more ridiculous than this as an effort by a Government that has been in power for over 30 years. It is also false for the Minister to claim that this particular Fund does not have the taste of any political party. We have asked in our DDCs that we discuss this particular Fund so that we understand what it is all about and those that were initiating it did admit in some areas, that in competitive politics, parties should be allowed to come up with their own programme and that is a KANU programme. We know that those who have been involved in the collection of the extras that will be added onto this K£10 million have been KANU committees and they are everywhere. So for any one to say that this is not a KANU fund, I think he is misleading the nation. How you come around when you have kept it as a KANU fund and then say that the DDCs will be the ones to distribute it, again it is to take this particular nation for a ride. It is well known that creation of jobs is not usually by these little donation of under Kshs1 million to each constituency. If we thought that by that we were solving unemployment problem, I think we should be likened to a man who had an axe to cut a huge tree and then he failed to use the axe and went for a panga and on failing to do anything with the panga, he asked for a sharp razor blade to cut that big tree. I do not see how you are going to solve the unemployment problem by merely making these little collections and coming around next year to say how much each constituency will get and in this way hope to solve the problem of unemployment.

The next area that I find important to comment on is that of education. The Minister says that the scale of the effort required is enormous; that is to provide universal primary education. He says, "Our policy has been to supplement public funds by encouraging cost-sharing initiatives by parents whenever possible in the Harambee tradition". You know how imbalanced this is. We know of primary schools in this country that can have as few as 190 pupils and when Harambee fund-raising is held for such a primary school, the guest of honour can come around with Kshs1,040,000 and you can then count who is who in KANU because everyone is competing for attention. Even ordinary MPs can raise Kshs 225,000 for such a Harambee for that particular school. But you know that there are other schools in some areas where however much you do, you hardly

raise, at any one particular time, more than Kshs40,000 and then you are talking of having equal opportunities in education! You would be talking like someone who does not know the country in which he lives. If the Minister does realise that there are some disadvantaged areas in this country that cannot raise any funds through Harambee to give anything like a standard kind of education, the KANU Government should take it upon itself to ensure that this child gets education that is as high as that of any other Kenyan child. In this Budget Speech, no particular effort is mentioned in ensuring that every Kenyan child will get equal education.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is the issue of bursaries for secondary school children. We are happy to note that these bursaries are going to be doubled. If they are doubled, we suppose that more children will be encouraged and enabled to get full secondary school education. But is that what is happening? The bursaries are taken to the secondary schools. The secondary schools are then asked to look around and pick those students who cannot pay their fees with ease, so that they can be helped. But the real situation is that very bright, but poor students who have been offered places in those schools after sitting for the (KCPE), will not have reached in those schools. So, they will not be considered as students of those schools. Firstly, they have to be registered as students in those schools. So, this Government must come up with better ways of operating this bursary fund, so that it can help students who are not able to raise any money, to join Form I. We should leave the operation of these bursaries to the DDCs or the provincial administration. We can set up local committees, either at the chief or divisional levels.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business and the House is therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, the 20th of June, 1996 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.