

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 3rd October, 2006

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

The following Paper was laid on the Table:-

The Report of the 4th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly and the 11th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly held in Vienna, Austria, from 15th to 22nd June, 2006.

(By Mr. Kamotho)

NOTICE OF MOTION

ADOPTION OF FOURTH ACP/ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY REPORT

Mr. Kamotho: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give Notice of the following Motion:-
THAT, this House adopts the Report of the 4th Session of the ACP Assembly and the 11th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly held in Vienna, Austria, from 15th to 22nd June, 2006.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, as you realise, today is a Supply Day. So, Question Time will be restricted to one hour.

QUESTION BY PRIVATE NOTICE

DELAYED DISBURSEMENT OF FPE FUNDS TO ILUMANTHI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Education the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that Ilumanthi Primary School (A/c No.166124078) has not received money under Free Primary Education Programme amounting to Kshs216,265?

(b) Is he further aware that as a result, parents are moving pupils from the school to neighbouring schools for fear that they will be required to pay for services such as repair of buildings and salaries for watchmen?

(c) What is the Minister doing to ensure that the money is disbursed to the school account?

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

(a) I am not aware that Ilumanthi Primary School has not received the free primary education grant amounting to Kshs216,265.

(b) I am also not aware that the parents of this school are relocating their children to other

neighbouring schools due to lack of free primary education disbursement. The Ministry had explained and assured the parents that the payment schedule for the school, alongside others, was ready and will be deposited in the school's account any time.

(c) The anomaly has been rectified and the amount has been credited to the school's account No.2 at the Kenya Commercial Bank, Matuu Branch.

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on many occasions, Questions of this nature have been brought to this House purely because somebody in the Ministry is not doing his or her job. What is the Assistant Minister doing about this issue? I know she is too busy selling roses. What is she doing to ensure that the officers in her Ministry do their business?

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members. The hon. Member for Yatta must have uttered something that has excited hon. Members. The Chair would like to share in that excitement. What did you say, Mr. C. Kilonzo?

Mr. C. Kilonzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all I meant is that she is very busy.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a rose is a very beautiful flower and I am proud of it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members. On day one, I intend to let the House know that we will be very serious with our business and this will continue. Please, let us all be serious on the business of the House.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very busy serving my people in the Ministry of Education, as well as my constituents. In this case, the head teacher gave the wrong account number, which is 166124708, instead of 166124078. When the mistake was corrected after we found out that they had given us the wrong account number, it was rectified immediately and the money is in the account. So, the hon. Member is not in order to insinuate that I was busy doing other work.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.230

COMMENCEMENT OF SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME IN MAKUENI DISTRICT

Mr. Ndambuki asked the Minister for Education:-

- (a) whether he could inform the House when the primary school feeding programme will commence in Makueni District; and,
- (b) whether he could further inform the House which schools have been included in the programme.

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

(a) The regular school feeding programme has been, and is still, an ongoing programme in Makueni District. However, in addition to the regular programme, an expanded school feeding programme targeting 285 schools with an enrolment of 101,513 pupils commenced in term II, 2006 in the district.

(b) The lists of the schools earmarked to benefit from the proposed expanded school feeding programme (285 schools) and that of those under the regular school feeding programme (323 schools) are attached here in appendix I and II.

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have the appendix that the Assistant Minister is talking about. I want to remind the Assistant Minister that Makueni has over 850 primary schools. If you look at the primary schools which the Assistant Minister has said are getting food, you will find

that quite a big number does not get food. The lack of food in the area is not just caused by drought, but because of the famine found in that place. What is the Assistant Minister doing to make sure that all the primary schools receive food?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the schools earmarked for feeding are receiving food. However, if there are others that need assistance, I am sure the education officer in Makueni and the District Education Board will give us that information.

Dr. Ojiambo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that 30 per cent of children under five years of age in this country are underweight because of lack of food? Is she further aware that children in primary schools where this programme is being offered are already malnourished and affected to the extent that they cannot perform well in schools? What will she do to ensure that children do not attend school when they are malnourished?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that question should be answered by the Ministry of Health which deals with the issue of malnourishment and making sure that all children are healthy. As the Ministry of Education, we do everything we can to feed the children in all areas where there is famine or shortage of food. As soon as we receive information to the effect that there are other schools which need help, we will address the problem.

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has said that the Ministry is waiting for a letter from the District Education Officer and the DEB. I am sure that the letter was written last term but as we speak, nothing has happened. What is the Assistant Minister going to do about this?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have said that we should review the situation regularly. Sometimes there has been shortage of food from the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Office of the President where the supplies come from. However, we will give the food to the needy areas whenever it is available. I visited Machakos District to assess the food situation. I will visit Makueni District if need arises.

Question No.374

MOUNTING OF POLICE ROAD
BLOCKS IN KISII TOWN

Mr. Omingo asked the Minister of State, for Administration and National Security:-

- (a) whether he is aware that there are over 30 police roadblocks within 5-kilometre radius from Kisii Town;
- (b) what objectives these roadblocks achieve given that some are within one kilometre of each other; and,
- (c) whether he could consider re-deploying these officers manning the roadblocks to curb insecurity within the town.

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

(a) I am not aware that there are over 30 police roadblocks within 5-kilometre radius from Kisii Town. However, I am aware that there is a roadblock laid along Kisii-Nyamira Road at Getare, and another one along Kisii-Migori Highway at Gesonso. Both of the roadblocks are approximately 4-kilometres on different directions from Kisii Town.

(b) The two roadblocks are essential for the maintenance of law and order, preservation of peace, regulation and free flow of traffic, prevention and detection of crime and apprehension of offenders.

(c) The deployment of police officers to man the two roadblocks, in addition to other security measures, are essential in preventing, combating and eradicating the commission of crime both in the town and its environs.

Mr. Omingo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is unfortunate that we have got a flat answer from the Assistant Minister, who is a very good friend of mine, on the first day.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether to blame the Assistant Minister or the officers who gave him the misleading answer he has read to the august House on our first sitting.

There are more than three police roadblocks within a distance of one kilometre on every road leading out of Kisii Town. There is a police roadblock at Mosocho, Nyamataro and St. Stephen on the Kisii-Kisumu Road. On the Kisii-Nyamira Road, there is a police roadblock at Getare, Mote Momwamu and Kemera, while on the Kisii-Kilgoris Road, there is a police roadblock at Mwembe Tayari, Itumbe and Mosiabano. On the Kisii-Migori Road, there is a roadblock at Daraja Mbili, Gesonso and Suneka.

On the Kisii-Keroka Road, there is a roadblock at Kisii School, Kegati and Keumbu. Why is the Assistant Minister misleading this House?

(Applause)

Mr. Kingi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have police roadblocks on those roads. The roads are blocked with bar spikes. Apart from the regular roadblocks that we mount, we also have routine police checks which involve traffic police officers who are mobile. Those officers can check vehicles on any section of the road. I am not very sure whether the hon. Member is not confusing the actual police roadblocks and the routine traffic police checks. However, we only have the two police roadblocks that I have talked about. In any case, it is not possible to mount 30 police roadblocks within such a small radius.

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, police officers who operate as traffic police officers or regular police mount roadblocks on our roads. Those officers are on our roads throughout the year. When we were on recess, police officers "immobilised" all vehicles causing inconvenience to the citizens. Those officers made their old Government unpopular. What do those officers do throughout the year? Do they ensure that the vehicles have valid insurance covers and are inspected? What is the use of the roadblocks?

Mr. Kingi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already said what police roadblocks are supposed to do. They help us to maintain law and order, preserve peace, regulate free flow of traffic, prevent and detect crime, and apprehend offenders. However, once in a while we carry out a swoop like the one the hon. Member has talked about to ensure that all vehicles on the roads are roadworthy.

Capt. Nakitare: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is the importance of police roadblocks? How safe are the police officers who man those roadblocks? For example, recently, police officers were attacked by thugs who threw a grenade at the defenceless officers. What steps has the Government taken to ensure that the officers are safe?

Mr. Kingi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure the hon. Member is talking about the incident that happened recently, which we are investigating. Once in a while, such an incident can happen. However, this does not mean that police roadblocks are not important.

Mr. Omingo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. While I appreciate the fact that the Assistant Minister has struggled to give this House a good answer, I have given a list of all the roadblocks within Kisii Town. The Assistant Minister, alongside my colleagues from Kisii knows that insecurity is rampant in the area. This includes arsonists burning houses, mine included. The arsonists who burnt my house have not been arrested today.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister consider re-deploying the police officers stationed on those roads to insecure areas?

Mr. Kingi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, traffic police officers will be left to carry out traffic duties. However, wherever there is need for us to increase police officers in insecure areas, like the one the hon. Member has talked about, we are ready to do that.

*Question No.179*AMOUNT OF REVENUE COLLECTED SINCE
INTRODUCTION OF BREATHALYSER

Mr. Mbau asked the Minister for Finance:-

(a) what the total sum of revenue to the Government in form of court fines is since the introduction of the breathalyser; and,

(b) what is the extent of drop in beer consumption and the respective drop in revenue collection by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA).

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

(a) Since the introduction of the breathalyser up to the time the High Court suspended its use, the Government had collected a total of Kshs2,111,800 in form of court fines.

(b) The available statistics show that there was no drop in beer consumption as a result of the breathalyser.

Mr. Mbau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for the answer he has given to this House. I regret the fact that when I raised the Question, the so-called breathalyser was at its apex. The answer would have been more relevant at that time. However, could the Assistant Minister tell this House whether there was an increase or decrease in the consumption of beer as well as the revenue collected as a result of the application of the breathalyser? Right now, I have the percentage increase on the beer consumed. What about the revenues paid to the KRA?

Mr. Kenneth: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the month of November, the revenue arising from beer consumption was up by 11.6 per cent as compared to the previous year. In December, the revenue collected was 17.3 per cent up from the previous year. In short, the revenue went up despite the breathalyser being in place.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the fact that relative sanity was brought back to our roads when the breathalyser was introduced, could the Assistant Minister tell this House the measures he will take to ensure that the gadgets are legalised under the laws of Kenya so that they can be reintroduced on Kenyan roads?

Mr. Kenneth: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter on breathalysers is in a court of law awaiting adjudication.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mbau, are you happy?

Mr. Mbau: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Okay! Let us move to the next Question by Mr. Opore.

*Question No.519*NON-PAYMENT OF DUES TO
MR. ABEL NYAMWEYA

Mr. Opore asked the Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development:-

(a) whether he is aware that Mr. Abel Nyamweya, a former guard/watchman with Dynasty Security Services Limited of Nairobi has not been paid his dues since his services were terminated in 2005; and,

(b) what arrangements the Ministry is making to have Mr. Nyamweya paid all his outstanding dues in order to enable him meet his family obligations.

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Ms. Mwau): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Since I do not have a satisfactory answer to this Question, I request the

Chair to defer it to Wednesday.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Opore, what is your reaction?

Mr. Opore: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that the Assistant Minister is aware that the answer to the Question is not [Mr. Opore] satisfactory. I, therefore, agree that she brings the answer later on.

Mr. Speaker: Madam Assistant Minister, did you request the Question to be deferred to tomorrow or Thursday?

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Ms. Mwau): Mr. Speaker, Sir, to Thursday.

Mr. Speaker: The Question is deferred to Thursday!

(Question deferred)

Next Question by Dr. Ali!

Dr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, although I have a copy of the written answer which I have been supplied with three time before, I beg to ask the Question.

Question No.516

TELEPHONE FACILITIES FOR
WAJIR NORTH CONSTITUENCY

Dr. Ali asked the Minister for Information and Communications:-

(a) whether he is aware that Wajir North Constituency, which is along the Kenya-Ethiopia border, has no telephone facilities;

(b) whether he is also aware that there is one link kiosk booth at Bute and Buna; and,

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, when he will provide proper telephone and postal services to Bute and Buna townships.

The Assistant Minister for Information and Communications (Mr. Were): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know that the Question was asked about three months ago and the answer I have here is the one I gave to this House at that time. However, I can still repeat it.

Mr. Speaker: Was the Question answered?

The Assistant Minister for Information and Communications (Mr. Were): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Question was asked about three months ago and I answered it.

Mr. Speaker: I want to get it right. Was it answered within this Session and six months have not lapsed? When was it answered?

The Assistant Minister for Information and Communications (Mr. Were): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I spoke to the Questioner and he told me that he asked the Question three times and I answered it three times. It is about one-and-half years since I was appointed an Assistant Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Maybe, Dr. Ali, you can help!

Dr. Ali: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Question was deferred because I complained that the answer was not satisfactory. The problem is that they always change the financial year from 2005, when they said they would implement the project, to 2006. Now, it is 2007, and next year it will be 2008. Does the Assistant Minister have a satisfactory answer? If they will not do the job, let him say so instead of changing the financial year every year.

Mr. Speaker: So, the Question was deferred and is properly before the House?

Dr. Ali: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

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

(a) It is not true that Wajir North Constituency, which is along the Kenya-Ethiopia border,

has no telephone facilities for communications. Telephone services are available at both Buna and Bute Divisional Headquarters. These services are provided from the Moyale Telephone Exchange.

(b) I am aware that there is one telephone bureau each, at Buna and Bute.

(c)(i) These areas will be provided with wireless technology during the Second Phase of the ongoing implementation of the Rural Telecommunications Project under Telkom (K) that is expected to commence in 2007. This will allow increased access and at the same time reduce communications costs.

(ii) The Postal Corporation of Kenya will open a sub-post office at Bute before the end of the year and license a stamp vendor at Buna within this month.

Dr. Ali: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this was to be done before the end of September, 2006. Today, it is 3rd October, 2006, and nothing has happened. I asked this Question in 2003 when hon. Michuki was the Minister and he stated that this job would be done in 2004. I asked the Question the next year and it was pushed to 2005. Now, the Assistant Minister is telling us it will be done in 2007. Is this Ministry serious or they are taking this House for a ride? When are they going to give us a specific answer on this issue?

Mr. Were: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I answered this Question last, I said that this will be implemented in the financial year 2006/2007. When I talk of the beginning of 2007, it still falls within the financial year 2006/2007.

Mr. Bahari: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bute and Buna are very remote parts of this country and experience a lot of insecurity throughout the year. Can the Assistant Minister perhaps expand the services so that it is not one booth? If it is only one booth, then, certainly, it is going to be engaged throughout and literally there will be no service rendered. Can he expand?

Mr. Were: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will ask Telkom Kenya to expand the services.

Question No.513

COMPLETION OF KOCHIA WATER PROJECT

Eng. Okundi asked the Minister for Water and Irrigation:-

(a) whether he is aware that the Kochia Water Project has stalled; and,

(b) what plans he has to complete the project.

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

(a) I am aware that Kochia Water Project stalled in early 1990 after 13 years of operation due to breakdown and vandalism of the pumping unit.

(b) My Ministry has redesigned the scheme and the total cost estimate to rehabilitate it is Kshs30 million. My Ministry has plans to rehabilitate the water project in phases until it is fully operational. During the last financial year, 2005/2006, my Ministry allocated Kshs1.5 million to jump-start the project and this was done. This financial year, 2006/2007, my Ministry allocated an additional Kshs6 million which will be spent to continue with the rehabilitation programme.

In this regard, I wish to request the hon. Member to factor in the CDF funds in this project to complement my Ministry's efforts.

Eng. Okundi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to thank the Assistant Minister for that reply. I want to state that we are, indeed, factoring in some money from the CDF to complement their effort. However, he has said that in the first phase, the Ministry used Kshs1.5 million and yet the work is very shoddy and does not even look like it cost Kshs500,000. With regard to the Kshs6 million he is talking about, I would like to know when this work will actually start?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I want to confirm to the hon. Member that Kshs1.5 million was spent in this manner. We purchased and installed 400 metres of pipeline. Secondly, we fenced the 2.5-acre compound and installed a gate. We also purchased pumping

equipment capable of discharging 70 cubic metres of water at a head of 230 metres. We also constructed a temporary store to accommodate the caretaker and act as a store. We rehabilitated the pump. We paid the Kenya Power and Lighting Company to bring power to the system.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this financial year, as I have stated, we have allocated Kshs6 million, and rehabilitation work will start soon.

Mr. Muriithi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, water is life. As the Assistant Minister is replying to this Question, he is not taking the matter seriously as we note around the country many water projects have stalled. What is the Assistant Minister doing to ensure that even the people in Maasailand get piped water in the near future?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that water is life. I want to assure the hon. Member that this Government is taking water matters very seriously. You can imagine the project collapsed 13 years ago in the regime he was serving as a chairman of a district. But today, after this Government came to power, it took us only one-and-a-half years to start rehabilitation of the project in order to provide the people of Rangwe with water.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, mine is a policy issue. I have a project in my constituency that has stalled for the last ten years and I have gone to the Ministry several times to complain about Sigor Water Project. What is the policy of the Ministry in rehabilitating those stalled projects? Do they have to wait until we ask a Question in Parliament so that they can do it?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our policy is that we always deal with those stalled projects. The Question is coming today when we have already financed the project. Our policy is so good such that the Government in which the hon. Member served as Assistant Minister let the project stall for 13 years, and we have been able to revive it within a very short time.

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to evade my question? He does not seem to understand the meaning of the word "policy"?

Mr. Speaker: Order! You know, he is right and you are wrong, because questions are on matters of facts not policy; otherwise, we will spend three days listening to water policy. But when is he going to give you water anyway?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have told him that we are giving him water soon and the project is on course and we have allocated money. But the past has a bearing on the future, and that is why I am reminding him where he came from and where he is today.

Eng. Okundi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked the Assistant Minister, when will the project be completed? Even the power he is talking about was provided under the Rural Electrification Programme two years down the line, but, up to now, it has not been connected. So, I am not sure whether what the Minister is saying is just hearsay like we have been used to over the past so many years. When will this project be completed?

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious Government that is implementing projects. I want to assure him that even the authority to incur expenditure (AIE) is being written. I know he served in a system that was used to hearsay.

Question No.413

RESETTLEMENT OF LANDLESS
PEOPLE IN KERUGOYA/KUTUS

Mr. Karaba asked the Minister for Lands:-

- (a) whether he is aware that over 1,000 landless people of Shauri Yako, Gathuthuma, Gatwe and Kangaita live on the road reserves; and,
- (b) what steps he is taking to resettle them.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members!

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

(a) I am not aware that there are over 1,000 landless people in Shauri Yako, Gathuthuma, Gatwe and Kangaita who live on the road reserves.

(b) There are no plans at the moment to settle them because I am not aware that there are over 1,000 people living on the road reserves.

Mr. Karaba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not need to thank the Assistant Minister because he does not seem to know that there are landless people who are there. That is where I come from. He said that he is not aware that there are landless people living on the road reserves. Could I, please, ask the Assistant Minister to confirm whether he is aware that these people live on the road reserves? He is misleading the House!

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, the hon. Member is misleading this House by talking about 100 people when the Question states that there are over 1,000 people who live on the road reserves. It is not true that people are living on the road reserves. If this is true---

Capt. Nakitare: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House that there are no landless people whose lives depend on road and railroad reserves? Is he in order?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Capt. Nakitare! He is talking about a specific place!

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that is totally irrelevant. Therefore, I will proceed with my answer.

I am not aware that we have over 1,000 people living in these villages on the road reserves. As we are talking now, there is no extra land that these people can be given. I also want to assure the House that settlement programmes in Kerugoya/Kutus Constituency were completed many years back. If the hon. Member feels that there are people who are suffering, then I promise to send my officers next week to go and confirm so that we can establish the truth. However, as at now, I wish to confirm that I am not aware.

Mr. Gachagua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer by the Assistant Minister is very unfortunate. The issue of landless people in Central Province has been on this Floor on several occasions. If he is not aware that there are such people, we wonder what the Ministry is doing. However, only two weeks ago, I presented the Assistant Minister with 17,00 acres of land in Laikipia District. We are also aware that in the last Budget, the Minister included a sum of Kshs400 million for resettling landless people. Could the Assistant Minister go back to his office and check these facts and answer Questions relevantly and usefully to citizens of this country?

(Applause)

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are talking about Kerugoya/Kutus Constituency. However, I am aware that, especially in Mathira and other parts of Nyeri, we have quite a number of squatters. My Ministry is doing a lot to ensure that some of them are settled. For those who have not been settled, their cases will be considered.

Mr. Midiwo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the last Budget, the Government factored in Kshs400 million to acquire land to resettle landless people. It is common knowledge that Kshs186 million of that money was paid to a Cabinet Minister for only 4,000 acres of land in the Rift Valley Province. Could the Assistant Minister confirm or deny that this money is being divided up amongst Cabinet Ministers and nobody is being resettled?

Mr. Ojode: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Midiwo has made a serious allegation. He has alleged that Kshs186 million was paid to a Cabinet Minister; money meant

for landless people. Would I be in order to ask him to substantiate? Who is this Cabinet Minister?

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Was he paid for free?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware. Let him explain to us. That is why I am asking the Chair to---

Mr. Speaker: Before you get agitated, let the Assistant Minister reply.

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Member is saying is true. However, let me confirm that, that money was not given for free. Land was bought and we paid it to a company.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not sure whether that company is associated with a Cabinet Minister. However, I can give you the name of the company. It was paid and all the rules and regulations pertaining to financial procedures were adhered to.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am seeking the indulgence of the Chair.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is for the Chair to give us a clarification. The Assistant Minister said that, that money was paid to a certain company, while Mr. Midiwo is talking of a Cabinet Minister; an individual. Would it be in order for us to know who that Cabinet Minister is? Let him substantiate!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Ojode! Relax! Mr. Midiwo alleges that the money was paid to a Minister. The Assistant Minister said it was paid to a company.

Anyway, I think whether it was paid to a Minister or a company, what was it for? That is the most important thing to ask.

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to confirm, once again, that no rules were bent.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Mr. Kamama, you can help the House and your Ministry if you said what the money was for, how much it was, and then the House will be able to proceed not in speculation.

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member wants to go into specifics or naming names of people, I think he should bring a substantive Motion to discuss them.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Kamama! Order, hon. Members! We seem to be having a conversation between Mr. Midiwo and Mr. Kamama. As far as I am concerned, I do not know what this dialogue is all about. What I have heard is Mr. Midiwo alleging that a Minister was paid money and Mr. Kamama said it was paid to a company. We are not wiser as a House. You are the only one who can help us. Tell us what it was!

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to be clear on this issue. First, if the hon. Member wants the specifics of that procurement, then he should ask a substantive Question. Right now, I do not have the details of what he wants here with me. We bought that land to re-settle the landless

people. I do not think there was anything wrong in doing so.

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

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Sungu, what is it?

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we, as the National Assembly of this Republic, are entitled to know everything regarding this transaction. This is because a Cabinet Minister is alleged to have been paid a lot of money for this land. That is corruption! This House has to know who this Cabinet Minister, is on behalf of this Republic!

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Sungu! At least, from the Chair, may I make this absolutely clear. I do not care what happens outside, but it cannot be true that any time a Cabinet Minister sells property, it is corruption. It cannot be so, unless you can show that the contract was vitiated. We cannot bring in the issue of mudslinging for the sake of it. I will not stand for it. In fact, the two of you, Mr. Kamama and Mr. Midiwo, have been very evasive. This seems to be a matter between the two of you; known to the two of you and the rest of us do not know! If there was property sold, then the Assistant Minister can say at how much it was bought. However, I will not have hon. Members every time saying that because a Minister sold the property, then there must be corruption of some sort. It does not follow. It must be the most twisted logic I have ever heard!

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

Mr. Speaker: Yes, what is it, Mr. Mwandawiro?

Mr. Mwandawiro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, was this transaction involving a Cabinet Minister done through competitive bidding or single sourcing? That brings in another matter.

Mr. Speaker: That is a legitimate question. Mr. Kamama, could you, please, answer it?

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I do not want to answer irrelevant questions.

Secondly, I want to confirm that, that land was bought to re-settle the landless people. We paid about Kshs186 million. The transaction was competitive. The price was actually on the lower side.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Mr. Karaba, your Question has been hijacked. Proceed and ask your last question.

Mr. Karaba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, assuming that the Assistant Minister accompanies me next week to confirm whether there are landless people in Kerugoya-Kutus Constituency---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Could we hear the hon. Member on the Floor?

Mr. Karaba: Mr. Speaker, Sir, supposing the Assistant Minister finds out that there are 1,000 landless people in Kerugoya-Kutus Constituency, when will they be re-settled? Will they be re-settled soonest alongside other landless people in this country?

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I promise that I will send officers to Kerugoya-Kutus Constituency to confirm whether we have 1,000 squatters living on a road reserve. If we find out that this is the case, we will re-settle those people alongside other squatters in this country.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: What is it?

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Speaker, Sir, would I be in order to make the House wiser by requesting the Assistant Minister to lay those papers regarding the land transaction on the Table of the House, so that we get the correct information? Could we get the documents laid on the Table in this House, so that we have access to them to get the truth behind this matter?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Kamama, did you refer to any papers here?

Mr. Kamama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Question that was asked by Mr. Karaba is a different

one from what Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o has just asked. If he is more interested in this matter, he could file a [Mr. Kamama] substantive Question and we will provide more relevant information. The hon. Member should not take the House round in circles.

Mr. Speaker: Exactly!
Next Question, Dr. Awiti!

Question No.364

WRONGFUL RETRENCHMENT OF MR. A. OBURE

Mr. Speaker: Is Dr. Awiti here?

Hon. Members: *Hayuko!*

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Awiti is not present. Therefore, his Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

*(Order for Committee read
being Ninth Allotted Day)*

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE
THE CHAIR

Vote 30 - Ministry of Energy

The Minister for Planning and National Development (Mr. Obwocha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I on behalf of the Ministry of Energy, beg to move:-

THAT, Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, security and affordability of modern energy services are critical pillars of sustainable economic growth for development. Put in a more explicit manner, the socio-economic aspirations of Kenya in which jobs and wealth will be created to absorb the youth graduating each year from formal and vocational institutions and provide adequate health services for all, to name but a few, will only be realised if supply of clean modern energy services will continue to be adequate, reliable and affordable. I, therefore, wish to first make a few remarks on the energy supply situation in Kenya before presenting details of my Ministry's requirements for this Financial Year, 2006/2007.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, consumption of modern energy in Kenya has remained low at 96 kilos of oil equivalent per capita in the year 2005 relative to the minimum of 300 kilos of oil equivalent, which is the acceptable critical level for accelerated economic transformation and growth, including food security through irrigated agriculture. This low level, therefore, explains our high consumption of charcoal, firewood and other bio-mass with serious implications on the environment including frequent prolonged drought with devastating effects on food and hydro-electricity production.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the need for concerted efforts by the Government and the private sector to provide clean and affordable energy alternatives to bio-mass energy cannot, therefore, be gainsaid.

Relative to the cost of electricity, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) being a primary fuel would offer us a suitable alternative as a cooking energy to bio-mass. Moreover, the cost of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is lower than Kerosene by almost US\$200 per tonne in the Persian Gulf, which is Kenya's traditional source of petroleum oil. However, due to lack of adequate import handling and storage facilities in Mombasa, access to LPG has, hitherto, remained constrained. It is for that reason that the consumer price of LPG has remained extremely high, and the per capita consumption at 1.4 kilograms correspondingly low.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the average per capita consumption of LPG in Africa is in excess of eight kilograms. For Kenya to reach that level, annual consumption would have to rise from 49,300 tonnes registered in 2005 to more than 282,400 tonnes. Attainment of that level of consumption is possible within a time span of less than three years given that a country like Senegal, with a population of about a third of Kenya and a smaller economy, enjoys a per capita consumption of more than 12 kilograms, which is equivalent to 124,000 tonnes consumption annually.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry is determined to promote and financially support investment in LPG supply and distribution of infrastructure through public/private partnership. During this financial year, support will be given to the development of supply and distribution infrastructure in both Mombasa and Nairobi. In the near future, development of infrastructure will be extended to Eldoret, Kisumu, Nakuru and Sagana; in that order.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, currently, Kenya has no known commercial reserves of fossil fuel, but exploration activities undertaken in the past have shown potential for oil discovery. Oil exploration activities have been intensified and, with luck, we may discover some commercial deposits in the near future. This august House may wish to note that plans are at an advanced stage for drilling and exploration of oil for Block L5 off-shore Lamu, in the months of November and December this year. That is being undertaken by Woodside Company, which is an Australian firm, assisted by Woodside Kenya Ltd, which is their local company. It, therefore, means that the country will continue to depend on imported crude oil and fuel products to lubricate the wheels of socio-economic development.

On the international scene, oil prices have dropped from a peak of around US\$73 per barrel in July, 2006, to US\$63 per barrel in September, 2006. Despite that favourable price development, domestic oil marketing companies have only effected small cuts of about Kshs2 per litre in some of their products. Oil companies must, therefore, as a matter of necessity, transparency and accountability, reduce pump prices consistent with the current drop of international oil prices.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we need to use this forum to tell the oil marketing companies to, at least, reduce the pump prices by Kshs5 to Kshs7, which will be commensurate with the drop in crude oil prices.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, electricity is the most sought after energy service by any society. Its wide access is symbolic with civilisation. Currently, the demand for electricity in Kenya stands at 966 megawatts, against the effective capacity of 1,040 megawatts. Under the normal hydrological conditions, electricity demand has been increasing by about 6 per cent annually in line with the expanding economy, while the generation capacity expansion has been growing at a much lower pace. My Ministry is, therefore, determined to step up generation capacity through a combination of measures which will include power grid interconnection with our neighbours to take advantage of comparative costs, promoting private sector investment in generation and accelerating the pace of geothermal power development.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as biomass energy will continue to be the main source of cooking fuel for the bulk of the Kenyan population, there is need to promote and encourage the use of more efficient charcoal and wood stoves and planting of suitable tree species for energy production which do not impact adversely on food production. Time has also come for commercial production of charcoal on

sustainable basis and at prices which would compete favourably with cash crops such as coffee and tea.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I now wish to elaborate the activities to which I seek approval from this august House as follows: Kshs8,439,768,966 for Development Expenditure and Kshs336,620,748 for Recurrent Vote in this Financial Year, 2006/2007.

On Administrative Services, we are seeking Kshs130,200,000. That amount will be used for the following activities:-

(i) Training of employees of the Electricity Regulatory Board (ERB) in prudent management of the power sector in order to effectively serve the interest of all stakeholders, who include electricity consumers and power utilities such as the Kenya Power and Lighting Company, Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen). That is estimated to cost Kshs6.5 million. Those funds have been provided by the World Bank under the Multi-Donor Funded Energy Sector Recovery Project.

(ii) Capacity enhancement of the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) by way of staff training, provision of petroleum products quality testing equipment and purchase of vehicles for logistical support to the proposed Petroleum Standards Monitoring Unit in KEBS. That is estimated to cost Kshs45 million. Those funds have similarly been provided for by the World Bank.

(iii) The training of staff of the Ministry of Energy and engagement of consultants to assist with the implementation of the Energy Sector Recovery Project (ESRP). This component, which will largely be funded by the World Bank, is estimated to cost Kshs78,700,000.

The headquarters planning will cost Kshs20,500,000. In recognition of the benefits associated with the adoption of cost effective energy efficiency and conservation measures in the manufacturing sector, my Ministry has proposed to provide Kshs20 million to the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) to assist in carrying out energy audits and feasibility studies to promote the use of efficient and modern energy technologies in that sector. In addition, my Ministry will spend Kshs500,000 in the monitoring and evaluation of various development programmes and projects in the energy sector.

With regard to wood fuel development, my Ministry is proposing to spend Kshs12 million to facilitate the wood fuel supply development, promote wide adoption of improved efficient wood fuel burners, post-selected and fast-growing wood fuel tree species suitable for each region, demonstrate proven agro-forestry techniques and train community and private artisans in production and marketing of improved efficient charcoal and wood stoves.

In undertaking these activities, my Ministry seeks to deepen its efforts in addressing the sustainability of wood fuel supply and consumption in the country. The current penetration rate of the improved and more efficient charcoal jiko is 73 per cent of the population while that of the improved firewood stoves remain at a low rate of 13 per cent.

My Ministry is proposing to spend Kshs8,050,000 to undertake detailed site investigations and data collection to update the National Wind Atlas which was produced in 2002 in order to facilitate accelerated harnessing of wind energy in electricity generation and water pumping. These funds will also be used to support the on-going initiatives by my Ministry in assessing of mini and micro hydropower for community based electricity production.

As regards the national grid system, we propose to use Kshs1,166,930,917 to upgrade the power distribution system of the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) through the multi-donor funded ESRP. About 71.6 per cent of this fund, which is equivalent to Kshs835,457,037, will be provided for by the World Bank, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the Nordic Development Agency (NDA) and the French Agency for Development (FAD). The balance of Kshs325,473,880 will be provided by KPLC as a counterpart contribution.

In addition, the Government of China will provide Kshs1,430,000,000 while KPLC will

contribute Kshs76,180,000 for the upgrading of quality power supply in Nyanza, that is, the power line to Rongo and the greater Meru District from Kiambere to Meru Town. We want to upgrade the system in order to avoid frequent power cuts.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Ministry has allocated Kshs80 million to fund a detailed feasibility study and construction of a transmission line, that is, the power interconnector between Kenya and Ethiopia. However, our development partners, that is, KFW of Germany, the African Development Bank (ADB), the FAD and Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) have committed adequate funding for the study. In view of this development, the Kshs80 million will be used in preparation of a rural electrification masterplan update.

I wish to inform this House that we have already done the negotiations and signed the memorandum. We have also got funds for the feasibility study and that the line from Ethiopia will pass through Moyale up to Nairobi. Our neighbours have excess power. In fact, in one of their development projects they have 1,875 Megawatts when Kenya's total power is 1,100 Megawatts. This means that they have excess power and we would like to access cheap power from them.

With regard to geothermal resource exploration, my Ministry is proposing to spend Kshs1.1 billion for the geothermal service exploration in the Northern Rift Valley and drill three appraisal wells in Ol Karia IV Geothermal Field in support of a 70 Megawatt power plan which is scheduled for commissioning in 2009.

In addition, we will spend Kshs1,134,000,108 provided by the World Bank, the EIB and the ESRP, which is going to be spent by KenGen towards the development costs of a third 35 Megawatt geothermal plant unit at Ol Karia Power Station.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, more importantly, and I know hon. Members are interested in this, is the Rural Electrification Programme. This year, we are asking for a total budget of Kshs2.8 billion for this programme. A sum of Ksh2.1 billion will finance the extension of electricity supply in the rural areas. Included in this allocation for electricity supply is Kshs145 million provided for under the French Government funded Rural Electrification Project Phase III and Kshs230 million towards the cost of providing solar electricity to 48 secondary schools in the ASAL districts in order to improve their performance in national examination.

May I hasten to add here that the total cost of the French project is Kshs2.8 billion. However, since it is being spread over the year, that is the amount we have included in the budget. So, they are providing Euros30 million. Under the Spanish funding, we shall be receiving Euros12 million which is equivalent to about Kshs1.2 billion.

In addition, we will implement rural electrification programmes during this financial year in Hola and El Wak at a cost of Kshs250 million. A total of Kshs650 million has been set aside to finance the operating losses of the existing Rural Electrification Programme network since these costs will continue to exceed the revenues generated from the sales. In addition, Kshs22 million has been provided for training six design engineers in order to speed up the implementation of the Rural Electrification Programme.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally, a sum of Kshs5.7 million is proposed to be spent on estimating the cost of new projects and monitoring implementation of the Rural Electrification Programme. I hasten to add here that out of the 130 projects that His Excellency the President mentioned during the Madaraka Day celebrations, we will do another 130 rural electrification projects. This brings the total number of projects to 260. We have come up with a package for completing 940 rural electrification projects by June next year. Of course, with the performance contracts in place, we will have 120,000 power connections to our people.

On petroleum and coal exploration, my Ministry has been undertaking coal exploration in the Mui Basin in Kitui and Mwingi Districts. To date, 18 wells have been drilled and coal seams, with an average thickness of five metres, have also been encountered in 10 wells. To ascertain whether

commercial coal deposits exist in the two districts, my Ministry has already engaged a contractor to drill eight appraisal wells, while a truck, mounted with a drilling rig, has been procured to accelerate coal exploration. I am proposing to spend Kshs145 million during this financial year to finance these coal exploration activities.

On the National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK) we are asking this House to approve Kshs60 million. It is the desire of my Ministry to intensify the search for petroleum oil and gas in this country, particularly in the major sedimentary basins of Lamu, Nyanza, Mandera and the Rift valley. I am, therefore, proposing to give Kshs60 million to the NOCK to facilitate acquisition of additional primary data in the four sedimentary basins, and market their petroleum potential to international oil prospecting companies. Such companies have the requisite financial resources and technology for undertaking advanced geological data survey and analysis, in addition to drilling of wells.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hasten to add here that we have divided the country into blocks. These blocks have been given to various companies from the Western and Eastern worlds. We expect them to go into surveys and exploration immediately. For the Petroleum Exploration Directorate, we are asking for Kshs48 million. This should be set aside for our Petroleum Exploration Directorate to facilitate evaluation, monitoring and auditing of oil and gas exploration costs and activities by prospecting firms. Experts will soon be recruited to help the Ministry to undertake these activities, which need to be monitored and evaluated critically, as costs incurred by the oil prospecting companies are recoverable in the event of any commercial discovery. My Ministry is proposing to spend Kshs48 million on these activities.

On the Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC), in Sessional Paper No. 4 of 2004 on Energy, the Government stated, as one of its policy goals, the promotion of increased consumption of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in the country. This is one of the measures required to mitigate the adverse effects of increased firewood and charcoal consumption on hydro-power production and food security.

One of the main constraints to increased consumption of LPG is lack of adequate supply and distribution of infrastructure in this country. In this regard, my Ministry floated a tender locally and internationally in June, 2006 for the expression of interest by private sector investors for a public-private sector partnership for construction of 6,000---

(Loud consultations)

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Minister. What is it, Mr. Rotino?

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want to follow what the Minister is saying but there are a lot of loud consultations going on.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, particularly in that corner. That corner over there, please, listen to the proceedings. If you do not want to, you are at liberty to go elsewhere.

Proceed, Mr. Minister!

The Minister for Planning and National Development (Mr. Obwocha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the submissions by the applicants for partnership for construction of a 6,000-tonne common user import handling facility in Mombasa are currently being evaluated. Concurrently, the KPC has also floated a similar tender for a 2,000-tonne common user storage and cylinder facility on a similar arrangement in Nairobi, which is the principal demand centre. My Ministry is proposing to provide Kshs224 million to the KPC as equity participation in the two projects. These projects are expected to be commissioned by the fourth quarter of 2007.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hasten to add that the KPC is doing extremely well. The previous

incidents of corruption are a thing of the past. This year, it made profit in excess of Kshs2 billion. We have paid all the outstanding taxes, which amounted to Kshs2 billion, to the Treasury. We have also paid a dividend of Kshs300 million to the Treasury. Therefore, we need to commend the management of the KPC for resurrecting that company.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the Recurrent Estimates, we are asking for Kshs336,620,748 to support the foregoing activities by my Ministry. Of that Kshs336,620,748, Appropriations-In-Aid will be Kshs204,581,948, and Kshs132,38800 will be direct disbursements from the Exchequer for budgetary support. The breakdown of that is: General administration and planning Kshs206.8 million; renewable energy development Kshs52 million; electric power development- Kshs62.8 million and petroleum exploration and substitution - Kshs14.9 million.

In conclusion, I would like to request the House to look at this Vote critically. This country needs to develop energy resources. Our hydro-electric energy potential is almost at the maximum, except for small rivers where we have requested private investors to develop hydro-electricity. We should turn to the geothermal and wind forms of energy. In Africa, when you talk about energy resources, the Inga Dam Cross in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) can produce 100,000 megawatts. Kenya produces only 1,100 megawatts. So, we need 100 countries to produce 100,000 megawatts. There are only 53 African countries. This means that if Africa develops the Inga Dam, this dam alone will be able to supply power to the whole of Africa. We need to take up this challenge and improve our resources. For this country to move forward, we must also develop our energy sector. In the vision we are developing as a country in the Ministry of Planning and National Development for the period up to the year 2030, to be able to develop all the sectors, we need energy resources.

I am, therefore, requesting for approval of a gross Ministerial expenditure of Kshs8,776,399,714 comprising of Kshs8,439,768,966 for the Development Expenditure and Kshs336,620,744 for Recurrent Expenditure for the financial year 2006/2007.

With those remarks, I beg to move.

The Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Ms. Karua): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to second this Motion. We all recognise the importance of the energy sector. The development in the energy sector serves as an indicator of the economic development of a country. At the moment, we are aware that the demand for electrification exceeds the supply. That is an indication of our growth. We need this sector to act as a catalyst for economic growth. Therefore, it is important that we allocate money to enable them discharge their mandate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very delighted to see that for the first time, there are concerted efforts in the development of infrastructure for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) to ensure that it is accessible and affordable to most people. Once this is achieved, we will not only be saving our forests but also bringing down the cost of energy. Currently, the majority of the people in the urban areas, in the informal settlement, rely on kerosene. Even the low income families rely on kerosene.

If we were able to expand the infrastructure for LPG, we would be able to alleviate the suffering of these families and make it less expensive for them. Indeed, these form the bulk of the people in our cities and in our country. So, I would say that the Ministry is moving in the right direction. These are things which could have been done a long time ago but it is great that at last, we are zeroing in on what is really necessary for us as a country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am also gratified to note that the Ministry is intensifying efforts at oil exploration. I would want to encourage the Ministry to look around at what is happening, especially in the OPEC countries. We all know that especially the Arab countries have grown to become strong economies based on their oil production. We should, therefore, be very careful to start with the right policies to ensure that any oil deposits noted in this country are for the benefit, in the first place, of the people of this country.

We should make sure that the interests of the citizens of this country are ring-fenced. If the OPEC countries had not done this, they would not be enjoying the high standard of living most of them are enjoying purely based on their oil production. This august House should be keenly watching. We, in the Government, will do our best to ensure that any oil deposits benefit the Kenyan people, and we will come to alleviate the poverty levels and ensure that people get the services they desire.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already indicated that, currently, the demand for electrification exceeds the supply of the commodity. I note that, again, the Ministry has plans to generate more power to meet the demands. I also note that they have expanded the Rural Electrification Programm (REP) and for the first time, there are projects throughout the country. Where they have not started, there are projects earmarked practically for rural areas. For the first time, there is a project targeting the ASAL districts.

I note with appreciation the project that is trying to provide solar electricity to 48 secondary schools in ASAL districts and also the fact that there are monies allocated to ensure that Hola in Tana River District and Elwak in Mandera District get connected. In the past, even other development projects like water projects have had to wait after completion, for electricity to become functional. I remember that a year ago, when we finished the Garisa Water Project, we could not distribute water to residents in the town until the Kenya Power and Lighting Company was able to install a generator.

So, the fact that they are expanding the REP throughout the country, will ensure that people do not have to wait for services, and that when projects are ready, they are able to be utilised. The expansion of the REP will also enable people to go about their daily business without having to wait. I want to encourage the Ministry to continue expanding and ensure that their officers work round the clock.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also note that for the first time, the Ministry has set aside money to train designers for these projects. I am informed that, previously, the Ministry did not have any designers. It was outsourcing such services. For the first time, the Ministry is training 60 designers to enable them expand the REP. This is commendable.

I would, however, urge that those especially at the Kenya Power and Lighting Company increase their cost effectiveness so that we do not have to be faced with the threat of increased tariffs when people are already crying that the tariffs are high. We should not always look forward to increasing tariffs when we cannot meet the cost of operation. We should be looking at where the leakages are, to tighten operations, to ensure that we give service at an affordable cost and get best value for money.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would urge that the Kenya Power and Lighting Company - know that at one time it was a run-down company where bad practices had found root - to re-examine all the areas and all their spending to ensure that they tighten, so as not to pass on the burden of increased costs to their consumers, I being one of them.

I also note with appreciation that they are seeking alternative energy technologies like windmills. They are trying to update their national wind atlas, so as to be able to utilise this alternative source of energy. This is encouraging. I note that already, in some areas, we have windmills helping to pump water in several of these areas.

I would like to ask the House to whole heartedly support this Motion and approve the money that is being sought by the Ministry of Energy to ensure that we are all connected to power and our development is accelerated.

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

(Question proposed)

Mr. Speaker: I will give the first opportunity to the Official Responder.

Mr. Kipchumba: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to support the Vote of this very important Ministry.

This is a very important Ministry and it is not right for it to have a Minister in an acting capacity. Acting Ministers should be reserved for small Ministries like the Ministry of National Heritage and the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services. It is very unfair for the Ministry of Energy to have an acting Minister, who has to shuttle to one Ministry in the morning and to another Ministry in the afternoon. That is unacceptable. I do not understand why the Government cannot make a critical decision and appoint a substantive Minister to this very important Ministry. I would like to urge the President, through the Leader of Government Business, to appoint a Minister for Energy immediately or probably confirm whoever is acting, so that things can move faster.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Ministry is usually given very little money. With the rising demand for power in the various constituencies, this Ministry deserves more money than what it has been allocated. The Kshs2 billion is very little money because we are all scrambling to have a share of this cake. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government to get its priorities right. You cannot develop without energy. We should be getting about Kshs4 billion every year for rural electrification. The demand for power is very high.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many companies in the world look for customers. The Ministry of Energy has ready customers who are waiting to be supplied with power. Who in the world would not want to supply power to a market that has been ready for a very long time? It is only important for the Government to get its priorities right. When re-allocating resources, the Government should ensure that this Ministry gets more money.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! The hon. Members on the corner on my right, please consult in low tones! The Chair has already intervened and let this be the last time, please.

Mr. Kipchumba: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, despite the fact that only Kshs2 billion has been given, the Rural Electrification Programme has taken off well. The Minister has done his best. However, I think there is a problem with the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC). Despite the fact that money has been given for rural electrification, the KPLC is still under-performing. I know there are problems with procurement, but that is not our problem. Our problem is to be supplied with power by the KPLC.

I would like to urge the KPLC to pull up its socks, so that Kenyans can be supplied with power. There is a programme that was started called customer creation. We were initially told that the programme would be used to maximise on the power that is within a region. However, they are not maximising anything. Very many Kenyans have paid for power, but very little is being achieved through this programme. The customer creation programme must be strengthened. It is through the programme that many Kenyans who are within the reach of power can be connected. I am aware that the connection fee is now standard. It is about Kshs30,000 to Kshs35,000. Anybody who pays this amount of money should be connected to power immediately. That is not happening as earlier promised.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about the prices of petroleum products. We are all

complaining, including the Government, that the prices of petroleum products are very high. This is true, but what can the Government do? The Government is a toothless dog and cannot do anything to reduce the high prices of petroleum products. In 1994, the Government formed a company called the National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK). The NOCK was supposed to put up service stations all over the country, so that it could compete with the multinationals and stabilise petroleum prices. Instead of the Government lamenting every day about the high prices of petroleum products, NOCK should have been the first company to start lowering the prices. However, NOCK has very few retail stations in the country.

The Government should start by putting up retail service stations for this very important company and use them to lower the prices. Instead of complaining, the Government should be ordering NOCK to lower its prices in line with the reduction of prices of crude oil. For the Government to pretend that it is concerned about the high petroleum prices, when, indeed, there is nothing that it can do is a waste of time and it amounts to cheating the wananchi. You cannot pretend that you are concerned when there is nothing that you can do.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the Government is committed to ensuring that these prices come down, it should ensure that NOCK is assisted. For the last few years that I have been in this Parliament, very little money has been voted to NOCK. Indeed, the other day, the Road Maintenance Levy Fund was increased by Kshs3. That goes to increase the already high prices of petroleum products. Therefore, part of the reason why the prices of petroleum products are high is because of taxes and levies that have been introduced by the Government. In as much as the Government wants to collect revenue, it should not pretend that the prices are high only as a result of the multinationals. It is also as a result of the high taxes. We are all aware that we must collect revenue to provide other services.

The Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources must be seen to work together. Every year, there is an Item on this Vote on wood fuel development. This involves the development of *jikos*. I do not know whether in your constituency you have seen *jikos* being given to people or for demonstration purposes. I do not know where these *jikos* are developed and to whom they are given. What are they for? Do people learn from these *jikos* or we are just spending money in trying to discover *jikos* for the sake of it? Every year, I have always seen funds being channelled to wood fuel development. What is this for? We all know that many of these *jikos* have been developed elsewhere in the world. We cannot pretend today that we want to invent the wheel. This country cannot pretend that it wants to develop *jikos* that are unique to Kenya. They have been developed all over the world. They have been tested and proven to be efficient in terms of fuel usage. Therefore, instead of wasting money and pretending to develop *jikos* which are already there, all we need to do is to buy them and give them out to *wananchi*, if indeed they can be used.

Wood fuel is very cheap fuel. But just like I said earlier, this Ministry must be seen to work with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. There is now, all over the world, the development of quick maturing trees. Those trees can be used for fuel. But, unfortunately, very little attention has been given to this sector in this country. Therefore, if, indeed, we want to save on fuel and our environment, we must develop this very important sector and see the development of these quick maturing trees, like any other crops, because they will last for four, five or six years. But the Government has not given enough attention to this sector. To me, it looks as if the Minister for Energy does not see this very important sector as the development of fuel. If that was the development of fuel, in my view, that would make sense! But, indeed, the Government has not put its money into this very important sector.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a department in the Ministry or probably in a parastatal called the Electricity Regulatory Board (ERB). Last year, I argued that I have never known the purpose of this company called the ERB. If its work is to determine the price of electricity, why

would we have a company that exists in perpetuity when that can be done by a few experts in the Kenya Power and Lighting Company Ltd (KPLC), the Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) and the Ministry? If, indeed, that must be a negotiated arrangement, what do they do from Monday to Friday, or from January to December? We must be seen to be creating departments or parastatals that play an important role in this country. I would want anybody to justify to me why we would want to have an ERB; a fully-fledged parastatal, which is in existence for reasons that are not very clear to us. If we want to create jobs, let us create jobs that are meaningful and helpful to this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) does a very good job. But we all know that the petrol we buy in many of our stations today is adulterated. I think Kenyans have a right to good petroleum products and we demand that the KEBS should pull up their socks. Many of our vehicles in this country are damaged because of adulterated petroleum products. We want the KEBS to ensure that any petroleum product that is consumed at any retail petrol station is of good quality. We are entitled to that by right because we pay the KEBS to do that job. We would like punitive measures to be instituted against dealers or companies that sell adulterated products because, ultimately, Kenyan vehicle owners will pay a very high price as result of using adulterated products.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, renewable energy, and solar energy in particular, have not been given the much attention that we always talk of. How much money has the Government spent on solar energy in the last few years and where? We were told that they were going to assist secondary schools in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), let it not be a story every year. Solar energy is the cheapest source of energy all over the world. It must not be restricted to ASAL areas only. It must be introduced to any region of this country because we live in the tropical areas. Therefore, it would be very easy for us to tap this energy because we live in the right region.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have talked in this House very many times about the Kenya Petroleum Refineries and I will continue to talk about this company every year because nothing much is being done in this company. This refinery produces petroleum products which, at times, do not meet the required standards. This company is supposed, as by law now, to be producing unleaded petrol and diesel with sulphur content below 1 per cent. We do not want to be protecting this company every year. It is time that this company was left to compete with others. If this company cannot live to the required standards, it should be closed. Part of the reason why the prices of petroleum products are high is because the refinery that we have in this country is obsolete. If there are no investors---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Masanya! Order! Hon. Masanya, I am going to declare you disorderly in a while if you do not change. I do not want to say what you are doing, but you are not consulting.

Mr. Kipchumba: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was talking about the petroleum refineries. The petroleum refineries we have in the world today are so efficient that they would produce cracked oils to the extent that, for 100,000 tonnes of crude oil, they will easily produce 110,000 tonnes of petroleum. Why is that so? It is because they are very efficient. We have said before, that we should leave this company to compete with others. If it cannot survive, so be it! How many companies in this country have been left open to competition? The KPLC is struggling on its own. Therefore, this company must also be left to struggle on its own. If it cannot survive the competition and produce petroleum products at competitive rates, let it go! We cannot subsidize this company forever.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the petroleum products produced by this company are far much

higher in cost than what is imported. We cannot pretend that we want to protect jobs at the expense of Kenyans paying high prices for petroleum products. We cannot continue subsidizing this company at the expense of Kenyans using diesel with a high sulphur content and very high lead content. Therefore, I want to request the Government to look for strategic investors so that they can put in money and develop this company. If, indeed, nobody is interested in this venture, then we should let it go.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a fund that was introduced some time back called the Petroleum Levy Development Fund. My understanding was that, that Fund will be used for exploration purposes. Very little money is being put into exploration. I fear that this Fund is not being used for the purpose it was intended. I want to request that all the money that is collected under the Petroleum Levy Development Fund should be used for exploration purposes. Last year, some of those funds were used in the development of storage facilities.

I know that exploration is very expensive. However, for us to ensure that we get cheap petroleum, we must invest a lot of money in exploration. Recently, we heard the Uganda Government saying that they discovered oil deposits in western Uganda. We set aside so much money for exploration every year, but we are not updated on the development of the same. I think it is time that any investment on exploration must be accompanied by results on the same. Kenyans need to be informed about oil exploration. There has been speculation every year in this country as to whether we are about to discover oil or not. Apart from allocating more money for the exploration exercise, Kenyans must be updated on its development. Also, apart from Canada and European countries, Kenya must look for other partners to help in the oil exploration. For example, we could involve China. Sudan discovered oil because she looked for other interested explorers who could do it at cheaper rates. Let us not look for traditional companies alone. We should look for other companies elsewhere who will, probably do the exploration at cheaper rates.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we do not want the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) to be subsidised again. Recently, a lot of money was given to the KPLC. It owed the KenGen quite some substantial amount of money before KenGen's shares were sold. It should stand on its feet. It should be able to produce like any other power company. Some of the most profitable companies of the world are in the energy sector. The KPLC must not be an exception. Those losses must be fixed once and for all. The KPLC must also consider the issues of compensation. There are times when equipment is damaged because of power surges, which are unforeseen. The KPLC must, in its policy, ensure that when its customers' equipment is damaged because of its fault, they compensate. We cannot wish that away every year. There must be room for compensation, because we are valuable customers. After all, when we fail to pay our electricity bills for even one day, the KPLC disconnects our power. Of course, disconnection is a very archaic method of ensuring that people pay their electricity bills. The KPLC should look for a better way of handling such cases, because it has customers who pay regularly and need the electricity. I am happy now that we have been given an opportunity by the KPLC to prepay for the electricity supply. That is a welcome move. It is encouraging also that we can now pay electricity bills at various points. Those are good developments. But the issue of disconnection, at the earliest opportunity, must cease. The customers will not run away. They have signed contracts and they are there to stay. Every person can at one time or another experience problems, financial or otherwise. Therefore, there is no reason why we should continue using this archaic method. The KPLC disconnects power without even issuing a reminder that one has not paid his electricity bills.

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

Mr. Khamasi: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to this very important Vote. First of all, I would like to point out that the Ministry of Energy is a very important Ministry. It contributes substantially towards the growth the economy of

this country. It is, therefore, a Ministry that has got to be looked at very critically and in all ways be supported by the Treasury to make sure that it provides services to the citizens of this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the crust of the matter in this debate will be electricity which, in most cases, we get from hydro power. From experience this is not enough. In many cases, it has been unreliable in the sense that when we have got long periods of drought, we experience a lot of problems. It is, therefore, necessary that the Ministry of Energy looks for other means of generating electricity other than hydro power. The rivers from where we tap our electricity have got problems. In western Kenya, for example, we have big rivers with lots of waters throughout the year, but nobody has bothered to go and do a proper feasibility study to see whether we could tap hydro-electricity from them. River Nzoia, for example, is a menace, particularly to the people living downstream. The same applies to River Yala. Their waters flow into Lake Victoria and end up in River Nile. It is high time we used that water to tap hydro-electricity. Those rivers are steady and we need to make use of them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have talked here, time and again, about wind energy, but we have not seen any serious action by this Ministry. We can tap a lot of electricity from wind. However, we have done very little to tap power from wind. It is high time this Ministry moved fast to ensure that something is done in that direction.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member who was on the Floor before me, talked about fuel prices. When we read in the Press about the prices of crude oil in the world market and compare them with what is happening here, it is a shame. We understand that crude oil prices have gone down, but what is this Government doing to save Kenyans? Is it just there to see what is going on? I think it is wrong for the Government to leave its citizens at the mercy of multinationals which have formed cartels. All they can do is to fleece Kenyans. There is no need for the Head of State to say, "reduce oil prices" and stop at that. Time and again, we have had situations where the Minister for Finance would pronounce reduction on levies on fuel and yet, this is never passed on to the consumers. It is not good enough for the Government just to sit back and watch the multinational oil companies fleecing Kenyans. It must wake up. If need be, they should introduce a Bill here to make sure that oil companies are realistic. This is because, all the time, those companies are actually working against the interests of the citizens of this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about the generation and supply of electricity. It is high time we liberalised that sector. The Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) has not lived up to the expectations of Kenyans, and I support what Mr. Kipchumba said. I am happy because of what the Ministry has done. The Ministry is now providing funds to undertake rural electrification. But the bottleneck and let-down is nothing other than KPLC. I think they have got too much on their hands. They cannot cope. Therefore, it is necessary to liberalise that sector and have many players, so that many Kenyans could have electricity. I have in mind sugar-cane factories like Mumias, Nzoia and others, which are capable of generating electricity and supplying it to the main grid. The KPLC has found that task very difficult to perform. It is sensible that we look into that matter quite critically and make sure that, where sugar companies can make money by generating electricity, they are supported to do so. That way, we can increase the capacity of electricity that we are producing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to, once again, thank this Ministry. It has done very well and we want to support it. It is now becoming people-friendly. That is quite a change from what it was before. We would like it to keep up with that spirit. Electricity is a very important commodity. We are heading into the computer era in this country. We want our primary, secondary schools and tertiary institutions to have computers. We cannot succeed in that exercise unless all those institutions are supplied with electricity. If KPLC woke up and fulfilled its mandate, we would even use funds from Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) to provide electricity to very many small institutions. That is what has been happening of late. If we do that, we will be going miles in

providing electricity to our institutions.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the request by the Minister to receive a sum of over Kshs8 billion for the Ministry of Energy. But like Mr. Kipchumba, who is the Shadow Minister for Energy expressed the nation's regret and concern, it is quite disturbing that two important Ministries are run by one person. That either shows the deficiency of human resources in the Government of National Unit (GNU) or a complete lack of confidence of the President on Members of his Government who are not in the Cabinet. He cannot spread Cabinet positions effectively for the Government to be run efficiently. So, I would urge the so-called GNU to realise that those two Ministries cannot possibly be run by one person. I also note with concern that on the Civil Service Bench, we now have expatriate personnel.

The Minister has emphasized the need for rural electrification. He has said that the Ministry is now developing a rural electrification masterplan. That is something that should have been done ten years ago. When I was in the Ministry of Planning and National Development, I thought that the Government had a good idea of rural electrification. But I am learning now that the masterplan is being prepared now! North African countries have 100 per cent connection in terms of electricity. South Africa has 90 per cent connectivity. Ghana, Nigeria and Zambia have over 30 per cent. Kenya has less than 10 per cent connectivity. That obviously shows that we are not serious about industrialisation. Energy consumption per capita in this country is well below a country hoping to become a newly industrialised country in the next 20 years. Therefore, the concern for electrification and connectivity is important. But the Government must show the seriousness in pursuing that purpose. Giving us figures that; 940 rural electrification projects will be accomplished by June, 2007 does not tell us much. There could be 940 projects, but each one of them is only one kilometre long. So, we do not know the connectivity just by mentioning the projects. What we need to know is the number of households that will be consuming electricity by June, 2007, and not just the number of projects.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to urge the Government to take the distribution of electricity seriously. That is because power lines passing along the roads, across towns and villages are very dangerous. In my own local market of Kombewa, a young girl aged 12 years was electrocuted not too long ago, because there were power lines that had fallen down. That is because the manner in which power is being distributed is careless, irresponsible and very un-scientific. You cannot begin hoisting power lines of such high voltage passing where people live. When the poles that hold those power lines are weakly connected to the ground--- The people who are given the mandate to implement power distribution in the villages are very careless. I say that without fear of contradiction. You cannot possibly fix an electric pole to the ground without securing it properly, so that it could stand stable for the next five years or more.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, using poles from trees in this time and age is out-dated. There are better scientifically proven methods of distributing power in a country like ours. I would bet my bottom dollar that, that way may, in the long run, be much cheaper than even the posts. The initial cost may be high, but the longevity of that system is much longer and secure. I would like to ask the Government to take great care on the methods that are going to be used to distribute electricity in this country, in the masterplan that it is drawing. They should think forward and not backwards. Using poles is also dangerous to the environment. We are now importing poles from Tanzania. The distribution of electricity in my constituency is very inefficient. The people given the contracts have to wait for the poles to come from Tanzania. The other day, somebody took all kinds of equipment to my compound, without even asking me. When I asked what they are, I was told that they are for distributing power. They have been there for four weeks! Imagine the risk in terms of possibility of loss of those things? When I asked why they have been there for so long, I was told that they are

waiting for poles from Tanzania. The inefficiency in distributing electricity in our country must be addressed.

The other issue which I would like to be addressed urgently is the power outage in this country. It is costing us dearly in terms of our economy. There is a very high power outage in Kenya compared to Tanzania. Secondly, the waste of power in terms of leakage is still very high by all standards. When we took over Government some years ago, the economic recovery strategy for wealth and employment creation expected that waste to be reduced drastically. I do not know what is going on now. But both outage and wastage in terms of distribution and consumption of electricity is still too high in this country. The Minister mentioned, and quite rightly so, that hydro-electricity is, perhaps, not a very sure way to go forward because of lack of water resources in this country.

Hon. Khamasi pointed out that in western Kenya, we have River Yala and River Nzoia which can be used for small-scale hydro-electric power production. The late Eng. Ogingo tried to carry out the project on River Yala but he was thoroughly frustrated by the Government. I do not know what the Government policy is today, and if Eng. Ogingo came back to life today, whether he would put up the hydro-electric power system on River Yala. However, he did a lot and the Japanese were willing to help him but he did not succeed. Unfortunately, he died out of frustration from the Ministry of Energy then. I do not know if the new Minister would also have done so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) billing system is completely outdated. I was in the small island of Zanzibar some four years ago and found out that for one to access electric power, he or she only needs to buy a card which is similar to a scratch card and feed it somewhere in their house. When the units in the card run out, all one needs to do is purchase another card. In this country, we still have men who run around on motorbikes distributing power bills. When you visit the KPLC building at Parklands, you will find that the computerisation system there is still not up-to-date. Let us move to the modern system of billing which is efficient, cost-effective and user-friendly. The system being used by KPLC is not user-friendly in this day and age.

Recently, we went into a spree of buying shares from KenGen. That was good and it demonstrated to the Government that we have money in this country for our capital investment. Indeed, we do not need donors to raise capital in this country. Kenyans have money. I do not understand why in the Ministry's report, there was a whole catalogue of external funding in financing energy projects. We do not need that. One of the reasons why the infrastructure development in this country has been very inefficient is because of over-dependence on the World Bank. I said that when I was a Minister and I was not scared of being unpopular, and still hold that view. If you read the book, *Confessions of the Economic Hitman*, you will understand that we made a mistake with Sondu Miriu Project and it is very costly. We can produce electric power much more cost-effectively by using co-generation from our sugar industries. Mumias Sugar Company is already producing 34 megawatts of electricity, much more effectively than Sondu Miriu would. I do not know what is happening now in your Government!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o, stop addressing the Minister directly! Address the Chair!

Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will address the Chair. What the Minister said about less dependence on hydro-electric power is true. Let the Government go full throttle to develop co-generation of energy in our sugar factories. Let us use any biological or other methods of producing energy and not hydro-electric because the Sondu Miriu Project will cost this country a lot of money. Let us not make that mistake again.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I support.

Prof. Maathai: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to make a contribution and commend the Minister for Energy for the great work his Ministry is doing in an

effort to reach as many people in Kenya as possible. I want to emphasise the need for the Ministry to focus on new and renewable sources of energy because the world will move away from using fossil fuels. I think we could easily be caught completely unprepared and find ourselves unable to buy oil from fossil fuels when the countries that mine the resource decide that they do not want to invest in that area any more. Partly due to the awareness and the role that the fossil fuels have played in global warming and the concerns that the world has now on global warming, more and more countries will shift from fossil fuels and move to renewable sources. I think, in this country, as hon. Salat mentioned, we have not invested enough in solar research, and although people say it would be cheaper for us here since we experience sunshine most of the year, the technology that would give us the energy is quite expensive. I do not think we are investing enough in it. We should also invest more in hydro-power. We get most of our energy from hydro-power but without paying adequate attention to protection of our forests and management of our water systems, we will never get enough water from our dams. As we speak, we still have a lot of silt in our dams and the capacity of our dams has been greatly reduced by the silt. That is partly because - I would like to commend hon. Salat - the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and that of Energy do not work in synergy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Prof. Maathai, you are reminded that the hon. Member you have been referring to is hon. Kipchumba.

Prof. Maathai: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sorry. Indeed, there are four Ministries that I would like to recommend to work very closely with the Ministry of Energy. These are the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Roads and Public Works and the Ministry of Agriculture. The four Ministries should work in synergy because, in many ways, what one Ministry does either supports or destroys what the other Ministry is doing. If the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources does not protect the water systems in this country, we will never get enough hydro-electric power. Even the geothermal power produced depends on how much water we get in form of rains and percolates into the ground.

I also think that we can get a lot of power, as hon. Anyang'-Nyong'o has said, from our biological materials such as sugar-cane. Brazil gets almost all its energy from methanol which is obtained from sugar cane. We have sugar-cane in this country, yet we have never invested in getting energy from the sector. So, this Ministry needs to invest in those areas because we will not be able to develop unless most of us have adequate energy.

I would like to mention one area which is of great concern to me and that is the curing of tea. I think for the sake of our environment, it is important that this country stops curing tea using wood, partly because the tea industries encourages farmers in tea-growing areas to grow the eucalyptus trees which mature very fast because they are grown along rivers. They grow very fast and farmers make a lot of money selling the trees to the tea factories. However, the long-term impact on the environment, especially on the water system, is extremely expensive for this country. The only reason why tea factories use the trees is because they think using electricity is more expensive. The Ministry of Energy should invest in the tea curing process because even if we have to subsidise the factories, it would be much better for us in the long-term rather than encourage the planting of eucalyptus trees which are subsequently used in tea factories.

In my lifetime, I have seen rivers dry up completely. I have also seen big rivers being reduced to streams because of the intensity of the eucalyptus trees growing along river banks and in water sources.

It is for the same reason that I keep repeating that, for the sake of this country, we need to move away from using our forested mountains to grow commercial monocultures of pine trees. This is because these trees are gradually drying up our water catchment areas in the mountains. We have planted these trees on Mt. Kenya, the Aberdares, the Mau Complex, Mt. Elgon; all over. We have turned our mountains into commercial plantations of these exotic species.

People can live without timber from these trees, but they cannot live without water. Future wars are going to be fought over water, whether locally or globally. Indeed, even in our own countries, some of the internal conflicts that we are seeing among our communities are due to lack of water. If you remember the Enoosupukia clashes, when the Maasai said they needed the catchment areas to be protected. This is very true with the whole of the Mau Complex. Whenever you see people moving into the forest and cultivating there, sooner or later, you get conflicts. I think, as leaders, it is very important for us to make the linkages between the destruction of the environment and the conflicts that we see amongst our people as they fight over grazing areas and water resources. I think the Ministry of Energy can be very helpful if it would try to show the Government the linkage between the needs of our people and the need to protect the environment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that the Ministry may invest in research, but I am not sure that we have allocated adequate resources for research; for exploring oil or coal but also investing in these new resources. I want to encourage the Minister to ask our Government to form an inter-Ministerial committee between the relevant Ministries so that we can help our people. I want to give an example of what happened in my own constituency, Tetu, where I found all trees planted along road reserves were cut. When I asked why the trees were being cut, I was told that those trees obstruct drivers. I thought to myself, what is dangerous to a driver who is on the road when the tree is on a road reserve? This tree is protecting the soil; preventing soil erosion along the roads. I know when this soil disappears into the streams, it ends up in Kindaruma Dam where it stops the turbines.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so, could the Minister for Energy make this connection and talk to the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Office of the President, because it is the chiefs who encourage the cutting of these trees?

As I have said before in this House, we do not need to rush on the highway. We have a lot to enjoy on our country's beautiful roadsides. Let us have trees on our road reserves. With that, I want to commend the Nairobi City Council for the excellent work of planting trees in the city.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ojode: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to also add my voice to this important Vote. Let me, first of all, thank the Minister. He is a good friend of mine and he has tried to manage that Ministry very well. But there are some shortfalls here and there. I agree that Rural Electrification Programme is being implemented equitably. But there are some shortfalls which we are also seeing.

First, when the Minister wants

[Prof. Maathai]

people to pay connection fee to the tune of Kshs32,000, I think that is unfair. I would like to request the Minister to consider this matter. If you want a poor person to use electricity within a rural area, it is better for us to go back to the old rates of Kshs11,000.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying this because even the price of kerosene is so high that our ordinary citizens cannot manage, except those who have been involved in Anglo Leasing scams. Those ones can, at least, pay something, and you know them, and they are on the other side.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last time, we agreed here---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Ojode! For the record, I do not know them! Do not involve the Chair in such allegations!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is common knowledge that those who were involved are on the other side!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Do not involve the Chair in those allegations, because I do not know them!

Mr. Ojode: That is true, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, but the House knows. I was saying that, you have seen what is happening; contradictions every now and again, even on the Anglo Leasing

scam. An hon. Member the other day published names of prominent and respectable people like hon. Nyachae and the next day, she comes up and says she has absolved him of any blame! How? Is that not witch-hunting?

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Nyachae): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member implying that he is doubting the statement by the Minister that I am not under investigation? If he is doubting, could he confirm to this House that I am under investigation?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, you heard what I said earlier. I respect hon. Nyachae a lot. I do not even wish that his name can be tainted just the way it was done the other day.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Will you now sit down, Mr. Ojode? You see, you have this bad habit of diverting from debate and introducing matters that are not the subject of debate. I really cannot understand how you are jumping from the Vote of the Ministry of Energy to the areas you are going into. So, please, this being the first day, I want to caution you against diverting from debate. If you become irrelevant, I have the right as the Chair to stop you! So, will you now confine yourself to the matter we are debating?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, indeed, let me now confine myself to the subject we are debating. You will agree with me that the prices of petroleum products are too high. There is a Motion which is lined up for debate, notice of which I had given. We need to give power to the Minister for Energy to set up maximum prices of petroleum products.

Why am I saying this, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir? It is because, for the last three months, a barrel of crude oil was going for US\$78. By that time, the price of unleaded gas was Kshs84. That price has not changed from that time up to today when a barrel of crude oil is now going for US\$60. Why should we leave these multinational oil companies to rake profits from us? The profit margin is so high that the ordinary Kenyans cannot afford what we are being charged now.

I want to appeal to the Minister that, even if he is toothless as we speak, he should do something in order for our mothers and fathers to afford kerosene. He is toothless because the law does not favour him at all. That is why we were saying that if we give him the mandate to charge or set the maximum prices for petroleum products, he will be able---

(Mr. Muturi stood up in his place)

Kijana, what is wrong with you?

Mr. Muturi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for Mr. Ojode, who has said that he has already given notice of a Motion that seeks, among other things to give the Minister teeth and or power to bite, to begin discussing about the modalities of how he is going to instil teeth in the Minister's mouth? The Motion is not here!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is a frivolous point of order! However, he is a friend of mine, so we will go on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Ojode! It is the responsibility of the Chair to decide whether a point of order is frivolous or not. I think you are still not taking my caution seriously. You are being interrupted because of your diversions. Could you stick to the debate?

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is common knowledge that the Minister does not have powers to control or regulate the prices of petroleum products. That is exactly what I am saying. So, I have already moved a Motion trying to give the Minister powers to set the maximum prices for petroleum products. You will remember that when Mr. Nyachae was the Minister for Energy, he tried. He even tried to regulate but he did not have powers. That is why he could not manage these looters.

Now that the current and able Minister is going to have powers to control the petroleum

products once this House passes that Motion, we should expect that kerosene prices must come down. After all, it is a by-product. Diesel is also a by-product. Why should we be charged Kshs78 per litre of diesel? Even in South Africa they regulate. Why is it that in Kenya, there is nothing like regulation? Why is it that in Kenya, our own people are the ones who are colluding with these multinationals to steal from our own people? Why? It is so sad!

I would urge this Government, if they have ears, let them hear! Sometimes they do not have ears! They do not hear our problems. The only thing they hear of is where they can get some money to pocket. Scams! I do not know what we will do with them in 2008. A majority of them will go to court! They will be taken to court! There is one funny thing that we have to realise. If you are involved in any scam because you are a Minister or a politically-correct person within the Government as we speak, it is short-lived. Come 2008, I want to assure this House that a majority of these people will go to court. You will see! We will never spare anybody.

(Mr. Angwenyi stood up in his place)

Please, do not use my time!

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to say that a majority of us on this side will be in court? Could he substantiate that claim?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Angwenyi! How do you want that man to substantiate what is---

Mr. Ojode: What is obvious! You are right, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir!

The reason why I am saying this is because there are those who have been adversely mentioned. We had a Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Report here which recommended, among other things, that some of them should go to court. The Minister went round in circles and nothing has happened to date.

An hon. Member: That is irrelevant!

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am urging the Minister to---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Ojode! Your time is up!

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

The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Nyachae): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I stand to support this Motion because I believe very strongly that energy is an essential requirement for Kenya and for every family in Kenya. The economy of this country can grow much faster if we had energy; particularly, if rural electrification was extended to many rural areas. I want to emphasise the need for rural electrification because we cannot manage our own institutions out there as effectively as we would like to. For example, with regard to health centres, there is need for every health centre and dispensary to have electricity to enable the doctors or clinical officers to take care of the medicines in the cold storage so that they do not expire too fast. If a doctor has to do an operation in a health centre, he needs electricity. If teachers have to teach and have preps in schools, there is need for electricity for the students to study even at night. It is absolutely necessary that, if we are moving towards enabling our children to understand information technology (IT) or operations of computers, there is no way computer lessons can be taught in all our schools without electricity being available.

Electricity supply must be given priority in our country now. To give it priority means giving the Ministry concerned adequate financial allocation. I happen to have been a Minister in that Ministry. I am sure and convinced that we have professional personnel who can do the job. However, if they are not facilitated, then we can have them in the Ministries and departments but nothing much can happen. So, to facilitate these officers to do the job, let us give them the support they need. The support they need is what the Minister is requesting, although quite frankly, I am convinced in my

own mind that the allocation he has been given this year is inadequate.

I know that there is no hon. Member of Parliament or a representative of any local authority in this country who does not want to see the Rural Electrification Programme (REP) implemented. How will the Minister ensure that this is done for each one of us if we do not facilitate him to do the job? It is a pity that we do not even facilitate officers in his Ministry to do so. We need to train more officers to assist the Ministry to implement the programme. I find that we are not planning fully on how to continue with the REP in this country. I do know that we have inadequate materials, especially the poles. Recently, we imported some poles from South Africa although we have sufficient land in this country to grow those type of trees. If we are experiencing this problem right now, what are we doing so that in another 15 years we do not import more poles from other countries? We must start planting these trees now. To facilitate this process, we must encourage our farmers to plant the type of trees that we require.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the moment, we are faced with high demand for electricity. The demand is getting higher than what the Ministry is in a position to provide. This means that the Ministry must be encouraged to source for more electric power, not only from around Naivasha where they are asking the staff of KenGen to try and source, but I would like to suggest that we should approach our neighbours on this issue. I know that we can get cheaper and more electricity if we approached Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Government is willing to discuss with us on how to produce more power from the River Nile. However, we are slow in that area. We need to encourage our people. We should not just be thinking of approaching the World Bank and other lending institutions to facilitate us in this sub-sector. This is because the World Bank and other Western lenders will take us round in circles for a long time. Let me give an example to illustrate what I am talking about. For the last 13 years, the Ugandan Government has been talking to the World Bank to facilitate them construct the Bujagari Dam. But they have not yet got the necessary support. If we also continue talking to the Western lenders instead of approaching our neighbours who have the natural gift of water, we might not make progress in this sub-sector. We should join hands with our neighbours and get more electricity coming to Kenya.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are all aware of the fact that electricity is now very expensive for the ordinary Kenyans. We must, therefore, be very careful on this issue. The Ministry must put its foot down to ensure that the tariffs do not go up. An hon. Member from the Opposition Bench talked about contributions to the REP being too high. Even if Kenyans pay that high cost and thereafter they discover that the cost of electricity is too expensive, what is the use of having that electricity in the first place? We must make sure that we do not make the cost of electricity too expensive. Why am I saying this? I am not interested as an individual in seeing the KenGen company declaring a profit of up to Kshs3 billion and the KPLC boasting of making a profit of Kshs2 billion. How much are they using out of those profits and utilising it to help the ordinary Kenyans have electricity? I would be very happy with that kind of an arrangement. We do not want these institutions to make losses. However, we do not want them to make very high profits yet electricity is too expensive for the ordinary Kenyans. Let us moderate ourselves. We should make sure that the ordinary person benefits from this energy while the suppliers also make reasonable profits for their survival. This is a service to *wananchi*. We must provide this service to the rural areas if the economy is to grow. As far as I am concerned, if we provide good education, communication infrastructures, electricity, water and security, then we will be home and dry. These institutions are just bragging of how much profit they have made. That is not what we are interested in. We are interested in cheap electricity.

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

Mr. Muturi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on the Vote of the Ministry of Energy. From the outset, I would like

to say that I support the Vote of the Ministry of Energy.

There is no gainsaying that the provision of electricity in our rural areas is critical to any meaningful development taking place in this country. I want to support the sentiments expressed by Mr. Nyachae that it really does not make sense for KenGen and KPLC to brag of making astronomical profits when, at the same time, we are not making electric power energy available to majority of our population in this country. We heard from Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o about the connectivity ratio in this country. This is a matter that should be of concern to all of us, as national leaders, that as a country that prides itself and one that it intends to be industrialised within 20 years, the level of connectivity is so low.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as we make these lamentations, I really wonder what the Government is doing. The KPLC, to a very large extent, is a private company. So, what can the Government do? Like in other countries where they subsidize farming, why should this Government not subsidize provision of electricity to the rural areas? If we do so, we will enable the KPLC operate and remain afloat so that its shareholders also have something to talk about. Is the Government contribution to the REP fund sufficient? I believe the answer is a firm "no". Therefore, if we are serious about industrialisation, then we must provide electricity in the rural areas, particularly in our learning institutions and to the various health facilities that have come up as a result of the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF). It is only fair that those facilities are connected to electricity, if they are to have any meaningful input to the people they are meant to serve.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have come across demands by Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) to primary schools, some of which are in very poor areas, where they are required to make deposits of as high as Kshs100,000. I have come across, at least, two or three cases in my constituency. When we make those kind of demands to rural primary schools, we are almost telling them from the outset that: "You will not get electricity!" There is free primary education which is paid for by the Government. Where are those schools expected to get the money to pay for those deposits? It is for that reason that I am saying: The Government must look at that issue in a holistic way, and increase the kitty for subsidy to KPLC. That way, KPLC can give services at affordable rates and remain afloat and relevant to its shareholders.

I observed with concern that, quite apart from the fact that KPLC takes far too long to connect people who have paid the requisite deposits, it does not matter to them whether they are Government utilities, individual persons or businesses. I am saying that because in my constituency, I am aware that money was paid by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation to KPLC to connect Ishiara Water Supply with electricity. Four months ago, I raised the issue and they said they were still looking for documentation. That happened and yet, it is the Government which paid the deposit. The Ministry of Water and Irrigation in Siakago paid money to the KPLC to be connected with electricity last year. But, to date, that has not been done! If KPLC takes that long to connect even Government utilities, how much longer does it take to connect electricity to ordinary *wananchi*? It means that there is a great area for improvement. I urge that KPLC be compelled to ensure that those delays are reduced. The more you delay, the more people complain.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to go into the area of minor dams because a lot has been said about them. However, I am concerned about the National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK). When I read through the enabling legislation that created it, I thought it was meant to be a very viable and vibrant organisation. But for all practical purposes, we cannot see anything about it. It has so few outlets that you wonder whether it is of any use any more, other than to keep on holding conferences and seminars to say that they have licensed so-and-so to export oil. But the other functions for which it was set up have completely been overshadowed by the talk in seminars and workshops that they are going to license people and there is a possibility of oil being found in some funny part of the country in Lamu or such like places. It was not just created to license oil explorers!

It has the mandate to create outlets which would act as stabilising areas when prices escalate as they have done presently.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, still under rural electrification, I urge the Ministry to continue improving the area of implementation. It takes too long from the time initial survey work is done, design period and implementation to the extent that, even as the Ministry is doing so much on the ground, it is still not visible. That is because everybody you speak to says: "There is survey being done! There is designing being done!" But between survey, and designing and implementation until people see electricity, it takes two or three years. I am saying that from a practical point. That is a matter of fact. I urge the Minister to look into that area. Perhaps, it is a question of personnel. I am informed that there are more professionals. I think we can do with some improvement on the time taken for implementation. We should ensure that when a Ministry pays money to KPLC, it does not take forever to survey, design and implement.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot has been said about alternative sources of energy. I just want to add my voice to that because, in my capacity as the Chairman of Public Investments Committee (PIC), we have heard very good stories coming from Mumias Sugar Company. That is commendable. However, there is still need for the Ministry to explore areas of bio-technology where, perhaps, it is possible to come up with some other forms of fuel. For example, in some countries, they have even come up with cassava that is used to produce some fuel. Why is it that we cannot invest in that? If we have sufficient capacity in research either in the Ministry or other institutions, I would encourage the Minister to continue investing more and more in those areas.

As I conclude, I cannot fail to appreciate the good work that has been done by the Kenya Pipeline Corporation (KPC). I have presided over the PIC and I know the waste that has been associated with that Corporation over the years. I am happy to note that, that is now a matter of the past. I urge the Government to act to ensure that there is a substantive Minister. Either Mr. Obwocha should be confirmed or Mr. Kiunjuri be promoted to become the Minister for Energy, so that an important Ministry like that is headed by a substantive Minister.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I also want to support this Vote. This Ministry is critical to the economic growth of this country. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will start by making some comments on petroleum. For many years, this country has been engaging in petroleum exploration. At one time, you recall the former Head of State even displayed some substance in a bottle in public and announced that some petroleum had been found and that, this country was then headed to greater things. It is now over 15 years! Certainly, that is not the way to go if we are looking for a resource as important as petroleum. One now wonders whether that substance in a bottle was something different from petroleum. If it was petroleum, we would be drilling it by now.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as we now have very encouraging signs on petroleum exploration, I want to urge the Minister for Energy to forget about those cartels and multi-national companies from the West. He should engage the Chinese or other countries like India and Korea that now have some reasonably well-proven technologies and a reasonable degree of human face that goes with capitalism. This is because we have been taken round in circles and to date, as our neighbours make strides in petroleum exploration, we are still at the experiment level. I hope that the blocks that have been given to the Chinese will yield substantial and positive results.

However, more importantly, I have heard my colleagues complain about the price of fuel. I do not think that this country should be encouraged to go down the route of price fixing and price controls. If you recall, the National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK) was set up exactly for that reason so that when we have a misbehaving cartel of foreigners, then we have a local player who can shield and cushion the local people and economy from ravaging capitalists.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the time NOCK was set up, by now, it should be all over the country selling fuel at a substantially lower price than the oil majors that dominate our market because NOCK was meant not only to stabilise the market, but also to cushion the ordinary Kenyans from being exploited by these foreigners.

Equally, I travel around a lot in this continent and I have pleasantly found out that if we engage countries like Angola, Nigeria, Libya, Equatorial Guinea and others they would be able to give us oil at a subsidised price. That is what they are giving to other countries. If that oil came here through NOCK, I do not see why it cannot grow and even partner with the small mushrooming oil companies in the country and compete. It should not just compete with foreigners, but do so knowing that they have a patriotic service and duty to perform to Kenya's economy. If the Minister for Energy looked into that direction, it would be something worth talking about.

Indeed, we are now looking into possibilities of engaging diplomatic representation at whatever level with Angola so that we can also benefit from the resources that they provide to other countries.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, electricity, as my colleagues have said, is critical. We are now in the IT age. Everybody in this country is hungry for electricity. We want every school to have electricity. However, we should not limit our search for electricity to our institutions only to the national grid. We could establish mini plants by licensing as many people as we can to set up small hydros on our available river resources. We should license people to exploit wind power and all other source of energy.

I laud Mumias Sugar Company for embarking on the plan to generate 35 megawatts of power to put in the national grid. We can do a lot more than this so that we are able to provide power to all our institutions including hospitals.

Indeed, we have a masterplan even on wind energy that shows that we have a lot of wind resource particularly in Lamu and Marsabit that can be harnessed to generate power. That is the direction that we need to look because these are renewable sources of energy.

We have an enormous reserve of geothermal power. At least, when I was a regulator in the Electricity Regulatory Board (ERB), statistics showed that our reserve in geothermal power was standing at about 2,400 megawatts. That is almost double what we are consuming in this country and yet that geothermal power is a renewable resource of energy. If we go that direction, given that we are a country that does not have sufficient water resources, it will be very helpful.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to laud the Ministry for Energy for the many projects under the Rural Electrification Programme (ERP) that they have set in motion. However, I am a bit disappointed sometimes when I realise that KPLC is not working in tandem with the Ministry of Energy. This is why programmes that are approved and funded sometimes go for up to two or more years before they are implemented. It is important that KPLC now focuses seriously on employing more contractors who can implement these projects on time.

We have also been told of the presence of coal in Eastern Province. This is an area that we need to look at. We need to invite investors in this area. I have been to a plant in South Africa built on a coal mine and generating as much as 2,500 megawatts of power from one mine. This is something we can also do. If our economy grows sustainably at the rate it is growing and if we hook up with the growth that is going on in the region, much sooner than later, we will not have enough power to run the economy. You can already see that the establishment and commissioning of additional plants at the exit of the River Nile on Lake Victoria has created disastrous consequences on Lake Victoria, resulting in overdraining of the lake's water. So, we need to look at a different direction.

I have in mind the Inka Falls on River Congo. Research shows that it has capacity to generate 95,000 megawatts of power. That is almost enough to power the economies of the whole of the East, Central and Southern Africa. Perhaps, we need to look in that direction as well so that under the New

Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) we can partner with other countries to see how we can generate power to run the economies of the region that has started showing signs of growth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is also the issue of wood fuel. The majority of homesteads in this country rely on wood fuel for cooking, lighting and so on. I see, here in the budget, that the Ministry has put in about Kshs12 million for wood fuel development. I hope that it is not about developing *jikos* and other small things. We need the Ministry to partner with other Ministries responsible for trees in order to encourage tree nurseries and growing of trees so that wood fuel is readily available in our institutions, homes and other areas that it is needed.

On the whole, I think that in the future, as we go towards establishing a budget office in this House, it is absolutely important that we think of doubling the budget of this Ministry if it has to rise and live to the challenges that Kenyans expect it to face in the rejuvenation of our economy.

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

Mr. Sungu: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I also rise to support this Vote for the Ministry for Energy.

The importance of the power sector to the development of this economy cannot be gainsaid. Without developing this sector, we will stagnate. The previous speakers have adequately addressed these issues. If we do not take action now, we are bound to fail in our interest to develop this country. Our country's economy is based on agriculture, but we want to industrialise. We want to move into the IT age by introducing it in our schools and other institutions. We want to make sure that health facilities are every where even in the rural areas. All these facilities I have mentioned need power.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should not just concentrate on the question of hydro-electricity. We have alternative sources of energy, for example, geothermal energy and other renewable sources of energy. We also need to put more emphasis on the exploration of petroleum because the pace in this area is very slow.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I am glad to note that the Government is now setting aside Kshs1 billion to upgrade power distribution in the country. It has become very obvious that over the years, power distribution has been politicised. All the potential in power generation has not been fully exploited. I want to emphasise that instead of concentrating on a few rivers only, we should diversify our power generation sources. We have Nzoia, Nyando, Kuja and many other rivers that flow into Lake Victoria. These rivers can be used for power generation in addition to controlling floods. Flooding is a disaster in these areas. This is so because too much water flows into the lake, raising its water level for a short period of time. There is a reduction in the water level of the lake whenever there is less rain. If we use the rivers that flow into Lake Victoria for power generation, we will be killing two birds with one stone. We will be controlling flooding in those areas, as well as doubling our energy production.

It has also been said that petroleum prices are very high. There is need to have control over petroleum prices. We pay too much on petroleum energy. Even when oil prices go down, our pump prices are still very high.

We also need to look at the question of Rural Electrification Programme. In the past, its implementation has been very lopsided and has not been equitable. We do not know how it was decided to take rural electrification projects to some areas and not to others. We feel that this was done deliberately to favour politically correct areas. This is a new Government and should not go back to the mistakes made by the previous Governments. The NARC Government made a lot of promises to the citizens of this country. If we are to develop our systems seriously, then we should distribute power equitably. In this way, we will be able to address all the socio-economic problems that face this country. There should be economic linkages because no one area can develop at the expense of others.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently we enacted the CDF Act. I want to say that we

have many electricity projects in our constituencies. These are projects to supply power to our schools, hospitals and dispensaries. One major thing that really irks us is that the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) is a monopoly. When it gives a quotation, there is no way of finding out whether that quotation is fair or not. The KPLC has all the engineers, and we have no way of telling whether they tell us the truth or not. Once they give you a quotation and you make payment, there is no progress.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, at one time, the Okok Secondary School Electrification Project in Kisumu had an allocation of Kshs6 million from my CDF kitty. We paid Kshs1 million to the KPLC for supply of electricity. The second time we paid another Kshs2 million. We have now paid a total of Kshs4.5 million. After paying all this money, they said that the money was not enough, and yet they had given us a quotation. They said they would revise that quotation. Are they going to pay the people of Kisumu West interest? Whether it is political sabotage or discrimination, I do not know. Why should they discriminate against the people of Kisumu West when they have paid Kshs4.5 million? That money could have been used to build secondary schools, health centres and roads that could benefit wananchi directly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I feel there is political sabotage. I feel that some of the employees of KPLC are used by our political detractors to ensure that development does not take place in certain areas. Why should we pay so much money and then somebody says the money is not enough? When they sent us a letter, they posted it to another town instead of sending it to Kisumu when they knew that the project was financed by Kisumu West CDF. Some of these things are difficult to comprehend. We need to look at them afresh if we are to attain development. It has been said that the KPLC is not a profit making organisation. However, even if it were to make profit, I would not mind because it has to exist. We have to know if it needs to be privatised. In my own opinion, service provision is of utmost importance to wananchi. It is important to ensure that, unlike in the past, we do not make the KPLC a political organisation. I now see that there are some expatriates who have been brought in to help us.

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for hon. Sungu to insist, throughout his speech, that we are discriminating against his people without substantiating his allegation? First, he says that we are not equitably distributing electricity resources without substantiating it. He also says that they paid Kshs4.5 million and we revised our quotation severally, and yet he did not also substantiate that. Now, he says that we are favouring politically correct areas. Could he substantiate these allegations?

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is common knowledge that at Independence power generation was concentrated on one river and that was River Tana in Central Province. It is also common knowledge that the next Government just went to a river which does not produce enough power called River Turkwell at the expense of so many other rivers with a lot of water.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Mr. Sungu, could you be specific? The hon. Assistant Minister has asked for particular substantiation and you should provide it. Do not go into what he did not ask for.

Mr. Sungu: I do not think it is necessary to substantiate because I am running out of time. But I can give him evidence with regard to some specific projects. I will take documents to his office tomorrow, or table them in this House. I have got all the correspondence, and it points to a shame.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Sungu! Now, you are getting out of the way we do things here. You know the way we do things here. If you have been challenged to substantiate a certain point, you do it here.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can do that tomorrow. I have evidence from the KPLC that I can table in this House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker:(Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Sungu! Let us not go back and forth on a matter that has been decided upon in this House. Once a matter has been decided upon in this House, it becomes law. The law is that once you open your mouth and say things, you substantiate them on the Floor of this House. That law has not been amended.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with you. I beg your permission to table documents here tomorrow. I do not have them with me here now.

An hon. Member: Out!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order! There is no question of him going out. You are not presiding over this House now. It is me alone who is doing that.

Mr. Sungu, you know what you are supposed to do. You should substantiate here, or withdraw your remarks. You will get another opportunity to make and substantiate them later on.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, given the fact that the Chair has made a ruling, I have no alternative but to withdraw those remarks. But I will go to the Assistant Minister's office to show him the documents I have. He will know that I am right.

It is not right to use parastatals for political gain. That was the gist of my speech.

Finally, I want to say that floating of shares by KenGen on the Nairobi Stock Exchange was suspect in the sense that once those shares were floated and sold their number was doubled. It is common knowledge that it is a certain group of people who have benefited from those shares.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): What is your point of order, Mr. Kiunjuri? He is already off the Floor of the House.

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has made a very serious allegation. He says that the initial public offer of KenGen shares was done intentionally to benefit somebody. It is not good for the hon. Member to use this House as a public rally to make allegations without substantiating them.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker: (Mr. Khamasi): Well, Mr. Sungu has already finished his contribution. I will allow other hon. Members to contribute.

Mr. Muriithi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion. I am so grateful that the Ministry of Energy is setting up some demonstration projects not only in Central Province, but also in other parts of our country, which is contrary to the insinuation by some Members of Parliament.

I would like to call upon the Ministry to expand the facility to all areas of the country, so that Kenyans can enjoy electricity. In the developed world, electricity is the right of every citizen, but in Kenya, it is the preserve of the rich. It is, therefore, important for the Ministry to try as much as possible to provide electricity to every Kenyan who is able to source it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a problem of electricity connection because there were no electricity poles. Most of the jobs are still pending because the Kenya Power and Lighting Company has no electricity poles. Since poles are used for laying the transmission lines for electricity, what is the Ministry doing to ensure that we have adequate supply of electricity poles in future? It is not good for the Kenya Power and Lighting Company to wait until they run out of poles, so that they can import them from South Africa and elsewhere at exorbitant prices.

The company should contract large-scale farmers to grow trees for producing poles for them. I have seen small-scale farmers planting between 1,000 and 2,000 trees. In future, it will be very expensive for the Kenya Power and Lighting Company to access small-scale farmers. The company should contract Kenyan farmers to plant eucalyptus trees and have them tendered into poles. I am sure Prof. Maathai who is in love with trees will not raise any complaint.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister congratulated the Kenya Power and Lighting Company for having made a profit of Kshs2.9 billion in the last financial year but one wonders why the management of the company has been changed. There are new faces at the Kenya Power and Lighting Company. There was no reason why the company could not float shares at the Nairobi Stock Exchange for Kenyans to buy shares in the company in order to provide for the required additional capital to expand its business.

I do not see why we should be governed in a manner to suggest that we are heading back to the colonial days as if we cannot manage our own affairs. If the personalities at the Kenya Power and Lighting Company are on contractual terms, their contracts should be terminated as quickly as possible and hand over the company's management to Kenyans. We have well-educated persons who are capable of running the company in this country.

We have graduates who are competent in matters of management of companies. Even the Minister here is a graduate, and he is running a whole Ministry. I do not see why our officers cannot manage the affairs of Kenya Power and Lighting Company. We are the consumers and we want to be responsible for the affairs of our public organizations.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of the hon. Members who spoke before me talked about the off-loading of shares. This was done very well. I am a beneficiary. I did not speak to anybody. The allocation to me was quite okay and straightforward. My request to the Government is that it should off-load more shares to the public not only from KenGen but also from the Kenya Power and Lighting Company, so that Kenyans can own their own companies. There is no reason why the Government shares in these organisations cannot be off-loaded so that the Government becomes a minority shareholder while Kenyans become the majority shareholders. We do not need to import any financial assistance.

I would now like to speak on the issue of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and other petroleum products. It is a shame that the Government has asked foreigners to refine crude oil for us notwithstanding the fact that the refinery of the commodity is done locally. Surely, that is why we cannot afford to have the prices of petroleum products lowered.

The Government collects nearly Kshs500 billion in taxes every year. So, we can afford to have our own oil refinery plant. We do not need foreigners to do this for us. If they wish, they can bring their crude oil to be refined at our plant at a cost, so that we can sell the finished products to Kenyans at subsidised prices. In the developed world where fuel is used to heat homesteads, even poor people can afford to heat their homes because their governments subsidise the price of fuel.

In Nyeri Constituency, we have several uncompleted projects although we have paid the so-called 10 per cent deposit. The Government should educate the customers, so that they do not pay the 10 per cent deposit if they cannot afford to clear the balance. We should have proper planning. We should have officers throughout the country to advise the would-be customers, so that they do not lose their money.

This is not the first time that we are hearing about oil exploration. The former KANU Government told us that there was some oil in Wajir or somewhere in Nyanza. Somebody should tell us whether we have oil in Kenya or not, instead of making false promises. We are tired of these promises. We want to know whether we have oil in our country or not. If we have oil in Kenya, can something be done immediately?

It is not possible for an individual to generate power because the rules that are set up by the Government are rigorous and strict. In Wajir, there is a diesel engine generation. The Government should assist individuals to generate power. We should have diesel generation in Maasai land. We should contract individuals to light up towns and improve the living standards of the Kenyans who move around with their cattle. I would like to ask the Government to look at the pending applications and award contracts to the able Kenyans.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Keter: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute to the debate on such a crucial Vote.

While supporting this Vote, I would like to commend the work that this Ministry is doing. The Ministry has done a wonderful job by making sure that in every constituency throughout the country, there is, at least, one project which is ongoing or yet to start. The funds which have been allocated to this Ministry are not enough as my colleagues have said. It is important for us to vote money to areas where it will assist.

Energy is very vital for the development of this country. It is worth noting that in the Ministry of Education, projects in the field of information technology are being implemented in primary and secondary schools. Some of these projects are being implemented in the rural areas. You will find that a primary or a secondary school has been given 20 computers by the Ministry of Education and yet, these institutions have no power. Are these computers being given to the schools just for the sake of the students to see the dummies or are they meant to educate the students so that they can fit in the changing technology in the world? We cannot move towards the modern technology without power. I hope that in the next financial year, this Ministry will be allocated more funds.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, however, there is a lot that this Ministry needs to do. When the Minister was moving this Vote, he said that they are moving to geo-thermal or wind generation of power. I do not think that, as a country, we have exploited natural resources like rivers. I say so because Sondu Miriu passes through my constituency. It is from this river that James Finlay and Unilever companies in Kericho generate electricity which sustains seven heavy duty factories. If the Government is serious, they can implement such small projects throughout the country which will light most of the markets and institutions like hospitals and schools. In turn, our youth can use some of these institutions in doing other things.

So, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I say so because when James Finlay were implementing their project, they went through a lot of problems, and I believe that we need to make a decision as a country. Let us assist companies which can also assist the country. Why can this Ministry not forward recommendations to the Ministry of Finance to waive duty on some of the items used to generate power? I think this is very vital so that we can use some of the communities within, for example, the women groups, so that they can form a society to generate power and in turn even get revenue which they can use to sustain themselves. Therefore, I think we have not exploited most of these resources. As much as the previous speaker talked about power being generated by Mumias Sugar Company, I also think that we need to generate power from the small waterfalls, dams and rivers which we have within our country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I have complimented the Ministry for doing a good job, it is worth noting that the KPLC is not doing a good job. I want to say so because it is letting down Kenyans. I say so in particular because I have evidence to that effect. It is good that, at least, some of the people who have been acting managing directors of the KPLC are here. Maybe, with the injection of expatriates, we are asking ourselves: "Are they going to do better than what the other people have been doing?" That is a question which we need to ask. Why should expatriates come if they cannot add value to this country? I hope that with the injection of expatriates to the KPLC, they will add value to the company.

I say so because the Customer Creation Programme, which I really support, is intended to maximise the use of transformers by providing power to quite a number of people. The requirement for new applicants to raise up to Kshs30,000 is affordable to some of the people. On 17th June, 2005, I paid Kshs6 million to the KPLC for three projects through the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF). The former Acting Managing Director knows this because I made several trips and telephone calls to his office. But up to date, after making the full payment of Kshs6 million, those three projects

have not been completed. We made the payments more than a year ago and nothing has been done. This shows that there is a problem with the KPLC and I want to say that unless the Ministry or the KPLC does something, it is letting down Kenyans. The Minister has said that we have received donor funds, for example, Kshs2.8 billion from France and Kshs1.8 billion from Spain; all those monies are meant to fund projects. But does the KPLC have the capacity to do all those projects? They do not. I say so because the three projects I mentioned earlier were given to contractors in December, 2005, and up to now, they have not completed them. There are several other projects which are online and the only thing they say is that they do not have poles and they are waiting for poles. For how long are we going to be talking about lack of poles yet companies like James Finlay and Kakuzi tendered for the supply of poles and they were not awarded the tenders, yet there are poles within Kenya? Why can we not source for these poles from Tanzania and other countries?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue which needs to be addressed is the shortage of designers and surveyors. For example, we only have one surveyor operating in Kericho Town. He has to serve three districts. There is a lot of work to be done. There are many Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) and Government-funded projects which cannot be handled by one person. I hope the Ministry is doing something about it.

Why should the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) use its office in Kisumu to serve people in Kericho District? Why can we not have an office in Kericho Town to issue customers quotations for the supply of electricity? In most cases, we are told we cannot get quotations in Kericho Town because the computers are down. People from Kericho are forced to travel for one hour to Kisumu to get their quotations. If the Kericho office cannot sustain itself, then it should be closed down so that we move to Kisumu or Nakuru towns. There is no need to have an office in Kericho that does not provide services to our people.

The KPLC needs to speed up the issuance of quotations. Last week, the Kericho District Projects Committee held a meeting. The neighbouring Ainamoi Constituency had budgeted a sum of Kshs14 million to be spent on customer creation projects under the CDF. My constituency had budgeted Kshs10 million for the same. But we have been forced to reallocate that money to other projects, because we cannot get quotations. The KPLC is very slow in issuing quotations to its customers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have projects in my constituency which paid the 10 per cent deposit to the KPLC in 1995 to be supplied with electricity, but up to date, they do not have electricity. At the moment, the Ministry is just targeting secondary schools, health centres and other institutions. What plans does it have to ensure that those people who paid the 10 per cent deposit in 1995 are supplied with electricity? The KPLC should give priority to these projects.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been told that the French Government will provide Kshs2.8 billion for the implementation of the Rural Electrification Programme (REP) in this country. However, the former Minister for Energy, Mr. Murungi, was quoted in the Press saying that they got funding for these projects---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Your time is up!

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

Capt. Nakitare: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. While I support this Vote for the Ministry of Energy, there are some concerns that I would like to put forward to both the Ministry of Energy and the KPLC. Mr. Keter has highlighted the concerns that the rural poor have. In Kibagenge in Saboti Constituency, for example, people paid the 10 per cent deposit for supply of power through the REP in 1994. However, up to now, people are still waiting to be supplied with electricity. What percentage of profit are the depositors gaining for the money that was deposited for that purpose? The Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) must give an explanation. I did not come here to praise Caesar, I came to bury him. The KPLC has a system where, without the

knowledge of the consumer, is either over-pricing or over-estimating when it comes to survey.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have an example of a farmer who has applied for electricity from a transformer which is 500 metres away from his house. He was given a quotation of Kshs1,820,000 to supply power to that farm. It is not even a three-phase power supply. It is single-phase. The farmer has been asked to deposit 10 per cent, which is Kshs180,000. The farmer paid that amount and today, five years down the line, there has not been any correspondence. He has travelled many times between Kitale and Eldoret and whenever he goes there, he is told that matters are under consideration. That is a matter of great concern. We are looking at either hydro-electricity or geo-thermal sources of electricity. But chemistry reminds us that fuel from petroleum products is not forever. It is not an economy that you can heavily invest in. Developed countries which spend most of their time exploring fuel and natural gas are now turning to solar. I wonder, sometimes, because we are on the equator 12 hours. If a solar car could be run 23 degrees North latitude where the sun does not shine as it does at zero degree on the equator, why can we not give room to researchers and give them some money to research on alternative sources of energy, rather than concentrating on resources that we, ourselves, are diminishing?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Prof. Maathai has time and again said: "If you destroy nature, nature will destroy you!" That is a true fact. We are talking about hydro-electric power. We are destroying forests, wetlands, riverines and yet, we are craving to get electricity. Is it going to come from heaven? Rains are hard to come by these days. Weather patterns have changed. We are digging our mind deeper into a dying horse. Until we respect environmental protection, I do not think that we are capable of sustaining our hydro-electric system. We have silting dams because of cultivating up to the river banks. We are allowing soil to be eroded by water and wind. That is destruction by itself. When we look at how we have facilitated ourselves, we have not even come to understand the angulation of our land. In geography, we are told that land rises from east to west. We have special areas where we could use windmills to generate electricity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, developed countries like Spain, which is totally arid--- The terrain is rocky. There is no tree that can be planted. When you fly over Barcelona, you will find wind-mills flying high like electric posts that we have here. Why can we not do it in North Eastern, Turkana, West Pokot, Trans-Nzoia and Cherengany Hills.

If we were using windmills, electricity would flow into hospitals, schools and in all towns. We do not consume so much power when it comes to domestic electricity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our children in the rural areas not only need to study using intermediate technology, but they also need to save their eyes from short-sightedness as a result of straining the eyes to read in bad light, which has contributed to loss of sight or short-sightedness. Parents who cannot afford to take their children to opticians leave them to suffer because they cannot afford to buy spectacles.

We have special geographical features like the geothermal gas and geisers we see in Naivasha. They are an attraction. That is biomass because something boils underneath and there is volcano. What if the rock collapses and seals off the geothermal? Would the gas not come up? Would the pungent smell not be smelt? We would lose the investment if such a thing happened. We have to diversify and probably pay attention to solar energy and wind energy for the purpose of distributing electricity equitably.

The Minister for Energy has to come up as a prefect who monitors the KPLC, supervises its work and disciplines it. We have a Government but I do not think the Minister has a right to dictate anything to the Managing Director of KPLC because the company has its own bureaucrats and technocrats. Therefore, the Government and the KPLC have no direct communication. The Government can only implore people to help, but there is no direct link between the Government and the private sector, notwithstanding the fact that we are suffering due to ignorance in technology. We

have to under-cut some situations since we depend so much on book work. I do not think the Ministry of Energy needs so much money in offices where a professor's job is in the field. It does not need secretaries, vehicles, technicians and advisors. For instance, in Israel, a professor who is a botanist, his office is at a garden. He goes with his field results to his office. We have data management equipment these days. You can move with your computer and determine what a community requires. Let us have community communication. When I talk about community communication I mean communication between the Government and communities. We need to understand the requirements of the communities. We need to use CDF money to complement the Energy Vote because the two cannot be merged.

Mr. Ahenda: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker for giving me this chance, although there is short time left. However, I have some few points I want to make regarding the energy sector. I support the Motion and congratulate the Ministry which has been operating, even without a Minister.

Hon. Obwocha has been very busy trying to run two Ministries. As such, he has not been giving full attention to the Ministry.

I have three points to make on this issue. First, on the generation of electricity, I would like to say that electric power is still being generated by KenGen.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, KenGen should not only look at the two major ways of generating power to sell it to KPLC. There are very many other methods, which many of my colleagues have mentioned, that can be used to generate power. One is the geothermal, use of rivers, solar energy, biogas and--

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members! Mr. Ahenda, when we resume debate on this Motion, you will have nine minutes.

Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 4th October, at 9.00 a.m

The House adjourned at 6.30 p.m