

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## OFFICIAL REPORT

**Thursday, 15th July, 2004**

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

*[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]*

PRAYERS

**POINT OF ORDER**

NOTICE OF ADJOURNMENT MOTION  
AFTER QUESTION TIME

**Mr. Ethuro:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to give notice of Motion for the Adjournment under Standing Order No.20, to discuss a matter of national importance, which is the raging famine in the country.

**An hon. Member!** *Simameni!*

*(Several hon. Members stood  
up in their places)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, hon. Members! Sit down! Mr. Ethuro, I understand the anxiety. But we will do that after Question Time. Notices of Motion are those ordinary approved Motions. But for yours, you can do that after Question Time.

**Mr. Ethuro:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**An hon. Member:** Order!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, all of you. I know exactly what I am doing! I know what is going on. Very well. Can we proceed? We will begin with ordinary Questions.

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**Mr. Omingo:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The House knows your judicious and consistent rulings. Unfortunately, the Questions that were deferred yesterday, including mine, do not appear on the Order Paper. What has really happened?

**Mr. Speaker:** You know, maybe, Mr. Omingo may not be aware that, probably, by that time, this Order Paper was already out. They will certainly be there on Tuesday.

First Question, Mr Owino!

*Question No.473*

MORTUARY FOR MIGORI  
DISTRICT HOSPITAL

**Mr. Owino** asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) whether she is aware that dead bodies are rotting at Migori District Hospital as the hospital does not have a mortuary; and,  
(b) what plans are in place to put up a mortuary to serve that hospital.

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

(a) I am aware that Migori District Hospital does not have a mortuary currently. But we have converted one of the buildings into a temporary corpse holding area. The bodies of the patients who die in the hospital are kept away as relatives organise to remove them within 24 hours. In the meantime, we have advised the hospital staff to use formalin to preserve the bodies, before they are transferred to the neighbouring district mortuaries, either in Homa Bay or Ombo Mission Hospital.

(b) The Ministry will spend Kshs4.5 million to construct a mortuary with a 24-body capacity to serve the hospital. Construction work is expected to start this financial year. Also, the Ministry is sourcing for funds to build 17 district mortuaries countrywide on priority basis, to serve the districts which are equally affected. Our priority in the Ministry is to preserve lives and not to construct mortuaries.

**Mr. Owino:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for that answer. But when he talks about a structure which is being used now, I would like him to know that it can only accommodate one body, and for only 24 hours! Several people die every day in that hospital. It is the only district hospital serving four big constituencies and the neighbourhood. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that the construction he is talking about will start in this half of the financial year?

**Mr. Konchella:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the money that is allocated to mortuaries, we have given priority to this project and it will start immediately the AIEs are issued.

**Mr. Speaker:** Any Member interested in asking a supplementary question? Next Question, Dr. Awiti!

**Mr. Owino:** But I have not asked my last question, Mr. Speaker, Sir!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Mr. Owino, I do not presume! I have to see somebody on his or her feet. Anyway, you can have your last one.

**Mr. Owino:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Ministry of Health for having given us, some time back, Kshs1 million to construct a building. The building has been constructed and it is meant to be a theatre-cum-ward. Now, could the Assistant Minister assure us that they will provide some more funds so that the building which is about to be completed can be completed?

**Mr. Konchella:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will allocate more money this year to complete the building and put up an operational theatre also.

*Question No.691*

MEDICAL FACILITIES  
FOR WAGWE/KANDIEGE HEALTH CENTRES

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, Dr. Awiti's Question is deferred to Tuesday next week, at his request.

*(Question deferred)*

*Question No.515*

KVDA PROJECTS IN  
KAPENGURIA CONSTITUENCY

**Mr. Speaker:** Is Mr. Moroto not there?

Next Question!

*(Question deferred)*

*Question No.573*

REPAIR OF KIMILILI BRIDGE

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

(a) whether he is aware that the residents of Nomrio, Kamwuueru and Mt. Elgon locations cannot access Mt. Elgon District Headquarters as the Kimilili Bridge is about to collapse; and,

(b) what measures he is taking to repair this vital bridge.

**Mr. Speaker:** Where is the Minister? Sorry, Mr. Raila, I must interrupt. You can go and answer the Question and see the Clerk later. Hon. Members, there is something that hon. Raila is actually doing on behalf of the House with the Clerk, which I will announce later. Could you continue so that I can go to the next Question?

**The Minister for Roads and Public Works** (Mr. Raila): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that the residents of Nomrio, Kamwuueru and Mt. Elgon locations cannot access Mt. Elgon District Headquarters as the Kimilili Bridge is almost being swept away. However, I am aware that the bridge is quite low and narrow and that, during the rainy season, the water rises almost to the bridge level and this is what scares the bridge users.

(b) Although the bridge is low and is in a good condition, it needs improvement. In this regard, the District Works Officer has been instructed to re-design it so that it can be re-constructed. I urge the hon. Member to have it prioritised for funding through the District Roads Committee.

**Mr. Serut:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, first, I want to thank the Minister for that answer, though it is not correct. This bridge is the only one which connects the three named locations with the District Headquarters. As we speak now, the people of those three locations are just lucky because of the current drought or else they could not be accessing the District Headquarters. The truth of the matter is that the bridge; is low and narrow, as the Minister has put it, and what we have done as a community is to improvise its sustainability. Could the Minister now organise with the Provincial Works Officer, Western Province, to see that this bridge is re-done so that the people of Mt. Elgon can use it to access the District Headquarters?

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have already told the House, in terms of mere physical strength, the bridge is sound, only that it is low. But there is no danger of that bridge collapsing because it has been tested by my officers. I have said that we have already instructed the District Works Officer to re-design this bridge, to raise the level. This bridge is on Road D275, which falls under the jurisdiction of the District Roads Committee. That is why I am urging the hon. Member to refer it there and make sure it is prioritised by the Committee.

**Mr. Manoti:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the Minister's answer, that he has instructed the District Works Officer to re-design the bridge and use the District Roads Committee money, yet we all know that each constituency gets a maximum of Kshs5.5 million per financial year, is he convinced that, that money can complete that bridge?

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I talked of the District Roads Committee, and the hon.

Member is aware that, apart from the Kshs5.5 million that we give to the constituencies, there are additional funds which are given to the districts. Therefore, within that allocation, there should be sufficient funds to re-do this bridge.

**Mr. Bifwoli:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, given the fact that Mt. Elgon District is the granary of this country - they grow a lot of food - and the fact that the bridge is so low that when it rains water passes everywhere, could the Minister provide a mobile bridge as he makes those necessary arrangements?

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know what the hon. Member means by a "mobile bridge", because "mobile" basically means that the bridge is moving. But I assume he means a Bailey Bridge that we use temporarily. But we use Bailey bridges when the actual bridge has collapsed, which is not the case here. When there are floods, it flushes under the bridge. But as I said, mechanically and physically, the bridge is in a sound condition.

**Mr. Serut:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has said that the District Roads Engineer should re-design this bridge. But as far as I know, the District Roads Engineer has no powers to re-design the bridge. It is the Provincial Roads Engineer. Why can the Minister not ask the Provincial Roads Engineer to re-design the bridge and give us money from the Bridges Department in his Ministry?

**Mr. Raila:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I say that an engineer has been instructed, there are procedures that we use. We have a Bridges Department. But the services under the Bridges Department have to be requested by the District Works Officer. That is the reason I am informing the Member that we have already given instructions. How we do it is an internal matter within the Ministry.

*Question No.611*

MEASURES TO MAKE ROAD C67 PASSABLE

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

(a) whether he is aware that a portion of Road C67 (Njabini-Gatura) is completely impassable; and,

(b) what urgent measures he is taking to ensure that this important road connecting three districts of Nakuru, Nyandarua and Thika is passable during all seasons.

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

(a) I am aware that a portion of Road C67 (Njabini-Gatura) is impassable, especially during the rainy season.

(b) The Ministry shall continue to maintain the road to motorable standards as much as possible, throughout the year.

**Mr. Waithaka:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the part of this road mentioned is the one which connects Njabini and Thika. Njabini is a very productive area. As we speak now, we are unable to transport some of our produce to the markets. At the same time, there are people who are suffering from lack of food in Mwingi. From Njambini through Thika to Mwingi is a very short distance and food would be very cheap. For the last 20 years, that road has not been used by any motor vehicle and it is not only impassable during the rainy season. Could the Assistant Minister confirm whether it is true that for the last 20 years, that portion of the road has not been in use? I commend the Government most sincerely, because it has repaired part of the road from Njambini to Naivasha. But that portion, through Kiburu Forest, has not been repaired for the last 20 years.

**Eng. Toro:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that this road has not been used by vehicles for many years. The 28-kilometre stretch on the Njabini side requires approximately

Kshs14 million to work on the drainage system, install new culverts and do some spot-gravelling improvements so that the road can be passable.

Last year, as the hon. Member said, Kshs2 million was spent on a five-kilometre stretch which is now in very good motorable condition. Some of the sections require services of a bulldozer and the Provincial Works Officer (PWO), Central Province, has already been given Kshs1 million to start working on the improvement of the drainage and culverts. However, the bulldozer is out of order and, as soon as it is repaired, the PWO will start working on some sections of this road.

**Mr. Mwenje:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have experience that the roads which are being repaired by provincial engineers are never done. However, when they do them, they do a very shoddy job! We have even seen it here with the Chairman of the District Roads Committee (DRC); they never do a good job. Could the Assistant Minister consider now giving the work to a contractor to do that particular road to acceptable standards? This is because, if he gives it to the Provincial Engineer, and I know that particular road, we know that it will not be done at all.

**Eng. Toro:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir. However, it depends on the amount of money that is allocated. For example, when I say that Kshs1 million has been given to the PWO, surely, we cannot go and tender for only Kshs1 million because the cost implications will be very wide. If, for example, we were to allocate Kshs14 million, as I said, to improve this road, then that would warrant the commissioning of a private contractor to do the road. However, when we are making allocations to the District Works Officers (DWOs) or PWOs in small amounts for small improvements, we cannot tender and give work to a private contractor.

**Mr. Abdirahman:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I still want to stress more on the point Mr. Mwenje raised. I will not say or ask the Ministry to contract those small amounts of money. However, why not allocate those amounts directly to districts? This is because the overall function of a provincial office is supposed to be that of co-ordination. We had realised that many a time, funds have been allocated to provinces and those funds have not been used. Therefore, why does he not allocate those monies directly to the District Works officers?

**Eng. Toro:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are some funds that we allocate directly to the PWOs and some amounts we allocate directly to DWOs. Therefore, it depends on the nature of the work. For example, the road in question traverses three districts. The PWO is allocated this money to work independently on the three districts. This is because we might sometimes find it impossible to allocate funds to one district when the DWO cannot work beyond his boundaries yet we have allocated the money to him. Therefore, it means that he can only work on his section of the road; within his district, without working on the section of the road in the other district. This means that we would not be able to allocate the two portions to different districts. That is why sometimes it is important to allocate the money to the PWO. However, where necessary, we allocate to DWOs.

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Waithaka! Today, I am not going to be very generous because, as Mr. Ethuro had earlier on let the cat of the bag, he is going to move a Motion for the Adjournment later. Which means, therefore, that I must save some time for ordinary business and, if I agree with him, leave some time for the Motion on famine. I will try to do one hour!

Last question, Mr. Waithaka!

**Mr. Waithaka:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House has been told the importance of this road which covers three districts; Nakuru, Nyandarua and Thika and the assistance it will give this country in terms of access to food. Now there is even a Motion which is going to be discussed about food. Could the Ministry now consider preparing this road so that we can access potatoes and vegetables to take to the people who are affected by famine, especially, children? This is because it is not right to give them maize only when we actually have potatoes and carrots rotting away in Kinangop as they cannot access the market.

**Eng. Toro:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry will look into the issue. In fact, the road from

Magumu to Njabini has been upgraded to bitumen standard. It is now a matter of point that the road from Njabini to Gatura which is also a section of the road which is earth is worth to be made motorable. This will ensure that from Gatura to Thika, which is again a bituminous road, it can connect Nyandarua and Thika Districts and the market in Nairobi. It is shorter to go from Njabini to Nairobi as opposed to going through Magumu and Rironi.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well! Next Question, Mr. Karaba!

*Question No.615*

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST KACE/KCE/EACE  
CERTIFICATE HOLDERS

**Mr. Karaba** asked the Minister for Education, Science and Technology:-

(a) whether he is aware that students who went through Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education (KACE), the Kenya Certificate Education (KCE) and the East African Certificate Education (EACE) are discriminated against in the search for employment and entry to colleges, and;

(b) what he is doing to ensure that the certificates given under the old systems are recognised and accepted by employers and colleges.

**The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology** (Dr. Mwiria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Ministry phased out recruitment of the KACE, KCE and the EACE certificate holders for primary and diploma teacher training with effect from 2002 and 1992 respectively. All applicants for primary teacher training in 2001 who had KACE, KCE and EACE who qualified were admitted. Therefore, there was no need to open up for non-existent applicants. The same applies to diploma teacher training.

As regards employment of the KACE, KCE and EACE students, the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) only employs professionally-trained teachers and not holders of certificates. All trained teachers are allowed to apply for advertised teaching posts.

(b) The Ministry will not recognise these certificates in primary and diploma teacher training as application with those certificates has been phased out. In employment of teachers, the professional certificate is the main determining factor and not academic certificates.

Thank you.

**Mr. Karaba:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will realise that the Assistant Minister is trying to introduce a system where students are discriminated against by virtue of sitting for an examination. It is proper in this House to be told clearly whether it is a crime to be a holder a certificate of the former system of education and not the present. This is because, as it is now, it is not possible for somebody who sat for the EACE to get any job or access training.

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Karaba, to help the House, when was the last such examination done?

**Mr. Karaba:** In 1989, Mr. Speaker, Sir. That is the KACE at the A-Level.

**Dr. Mwiria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I explained that there is really no discrimination as such. When we advertised, those who were qualified were already admitted. I am glad that you asked that question of when the last group did the examination. It was in 1989 and since then we have a lot of other applicants with other qualifications. However, the main point is that those who had the qualifications as of that time were allowed to apply and all of them were qualified. Nobody was left out then!

**Prof. Oniang'o:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister does not understand the magnitude of this matter. We continue to get letters from holders of these certificates, complaining that they cannot access employment, leave alone being barred from joining teacher training colleges. Could

he tell us whether switching from one system of education to another renders previous certificates invalid? Could he also tell us what plans he has to ensure that certificates of previous education systems are validated to be in conformity with the current certificates?

**Dr. Mwiria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wonder why it would be necessary to validate any certificate. A certificate is good as per the period it was given. The point I made earlier is that certificates are irrelevant for teaching positions in the Ministry. We go by professional qualifications. So, nobody is discriminated against in terms of employment. If they are not employed, it is because they do not have the professional certificates. I also said that when we last advertised, all those who had the qualifications were absorbed into teacher training colleges. If there is any evidence that some had the correct qualifications and were not admitted, we would like to know and then we will review the situation.

**Mr. Abdirahman:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The issue is not employment. Is the Assistant Minister in order to avoid addressing the issues related to admission to colleges? That is the issue. It is not only employment.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! That is called piracy. You have behaved like a pirate. You have entered into a sea that is not yours to take away the property of that ship. That is a good question, but it is not a point of order.

**Mr. Abdirahman:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will come to you later!

**Mr. Bifwoli:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you heard the Assistant Minister say that there were no applicants of "A" Level wanting to join teacher training colleges. The last "A" Level examination was just done in 1989. They might have been working elsewhere. They are fed up with those jobs and they would like to join the teaching profession. Why are we discriminating against them? The process of applying for jobs is continuous. It is not a must that one must apply today alone. I can be waiting for tomorrow. Why are we discriminating against some people?

**Dr. Mwiria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree absolutely that it is okay for anyone to decide to go to college when he wants, as long as they are not past the retirement age. I said that all eligible candidates with "A" Level certificates were admitted to teacher training colleges in 2000 and 2001. However, if there is evidence to the effect that other qualified candidates have been left out, let me know. The Ministry will be quite happy to review the situation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Abdirahman, that answers your question.

Hon. Members, we must make progress. We do not have a lot of time.

*(Several hon. Members stood  
up in their places)*

**Archbishop Ondiek:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Would I be in order to find out from the Assistant Minister about the age limit in terms of training? What does he mean by that?

**Mr. Sasura:** Another pirate!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order! I think Mr. Sasura has an answer for you. That is not a point of order.

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Karaba:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you realise that getting a certificate in Kenya does not mean that you qualify to read or earn a living. Most of us here are holders of East African Certificate of Education (EACE) and Kenya Certificate of Education (KCE) and maybe, very soon, those certificates will be outdated. That is my fear. I expected the Assistant Minister to tell us that holders of EACE and KCE can still qualify so long they are not too old; unless age is also a qualifying

factor.

**Dr. Mwiria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question relates to the point of order raised by Archbishop Ondiek. The retirement age from the Public Service is 55 years. If you are above 55 years old, is there any need for you to go a teacher training college? Why would you join a teacher training college when you are retired?

**Mr. Munya:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am one of those who sat the last Kenya Advanced Certificate Education (KACE) examination and I am only 35 years. The Assistant Minister is ensuring that those who are now 35 years old cannot get jobs or get promotion in the teaching profession.

**Mr. Speaker:** Again, that is not a point of order. However, Dr. Mwiria, education is good on its own. Secondly, there is no age limit in private work. People can get private employment.

Next Question, Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry!

*Question No.566*

ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF KIBOKO  
GROUP RANCH LAND BY KWS

**Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry** asked the Minister for Tourism and Wildlife:-

(a) whether he is aware that a 30,000-acre piece of land belonging to the Kiboko Group Ranch of Kajiado Central Constituency, Kajiado District, is currently being occupied illegally by Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS); and,

(b) what he is doing to urgently revert the said land to the legal owners or compensate them appropriately.

**The Assistant Minister for Tourism and Wildlife** (Mr. Khaniri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that KWS is occupying land in Kajiado Central Constituency of Kajiado District belonging to Kiboko Group Ranch. The only land that the KWS owns around Kiboko area is Chyulu National Park. The KWS has a title deed to the land, which was acquired legally after following the required procedure and process.

(b) The question of reverting the said land, or compensating the owners, does not arise.

**Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very unfair way for the Assistant Minister to answer this Question. On 30th March, I wrote to the Minister giving him background information about this land. I even invited him to the ground to see the location of the 30,000 acres of land belonging to Kiboko Group Ranch. So, the then Minister was aware of this problem. I am, therefore, surprised that the Assistant Minister is not aware of this matter. If that is the case, then, maybe, the Minister under whom this docket fell previously, and who is in this Chamber, can answer this Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry, put your question!

**Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek the indulgence of the House to defer this Question, because it is not fair for the Assistant Minister to say that he is not aware. That is being very unfair to my people!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order, Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry! I want to help you! First, relax! Secondly, ask a question. You have not asked a simple question.

**Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, how did the KWS get the 30,000 acres from Kiboko Group Ranch?

**Mr. Speaker:** Very good! Now, Mr. Assistant Minister, answer that question!

**Mr. Khaniri:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think it would be useful to my Ministry if the hon. Member could provide proof of ownership of this particular ranch by Kiboko Group Ranch. As far

as I am concerned, KWS followed the required procedures. Cap. 376, the Wildlife Management Act, gives the Minister powers to gazette any area as a national park or reserve, provided that the procedures that are in the same Act are followed. As far as I am aware, these procedures were followed; we legally own this land and we have a title deed for it.

**Mr. Sambu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in many areas of Maasailand, and I have visited many of them, people cohabit with wild animals.

**Hon. Members:** You mean cohabit?

**Mr. Sambu:** Yes, in many farms. I do not know if the word is wrong but I know that in many farms---

**Mr. Speaker:** It is co-exist!

**Mr. Sambu:** Yes, co-exist.

**The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to insinuate that Maasais actually commit a criminal offence called bestiality by cohabiting with wild animals?

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! He meant "co-exist". I am sure that is what he meant.

**Mr. Sambu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for protecting me because this is not a court where lay people compete with lawyers. I meant co-exist. In Maasailand, there are wild animals on people's farms. Is the Assistant Minister going to use those powers to grab all the Maasai lands where there are wild animals?

**Mr. Khaniri:** No, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Kamama:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a deliberate move by this Ministry to give preference to wildlife over human beings. When are human beings going to be given preference over wildlife?

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Khaniri:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of what the hon. Member is alleging. We go by the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act and we follow it to the letter.

**Mr. Serut:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have heard the Assistant Minister say that the land was acquired. Acquisition means compensation. Whom did the Ministry acquire the land from, for how much and when?

**Mr. Khaniri:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must be honest to the House. I do not have the details but I know the land was acquired in the mid-1980s.

**Maj-Gen. Nkaisserry:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the information which I had given to the then Minister earlier on, on 30th March this year, this problem started in 1990 and not 1980s. You can see there is a discrepancy here. Could the Assistant Minister commit himself to visit the area, even with me, so that we can solve this problem?

**Mr. Khaniri:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir. We have had a discussion with the hon. Member. We have compared notes and I think we have agreed mutually that we will visit the area next month, when Parliament breaks for recess. This land has an historical problem but I do not think we will solve it by question and answer in the House.

Thank you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. Next Question by Capt. Nakitare!

*Question No.679*

## WATER SHORTAGE IN KITALE

**Capt. Nakitare** asked the Minister for Water:-

- (a) whether she is aware that Kitale Town has experienced persistent water shortage for the last three years;
- (b) whether she is further aware that Teldet Water Project that can supply water by gravity to Saikwa, Nasianda, Teldet and Kapretwa farms to benefit over 5,000 people has stalled; and,
- (c) what plans she has to ensure that the people of Kitale have clean water supply to avoid water-borne diseases.

**The Assistant Minister for Water** (Mr. Munyes): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that Kitale Town is served by Nzoia and Koitobos Water Supplies which were constructed over 20 years ago. The current water production of 6,000 cubic metres per day cannot, therefore, meet the town's water demand of 9,000 cubic metres per day caused by the rise in the town's population over the years without major rehabilitation and augmentation of the two water supplies. The most affected areas are Lessos and Kibomet which are located on high ground areas of the town.

(b) Teldet Water Supply which was constructed in 1980 by the Department of Forests, to supply water to Teldet Tree Nursery, is operational but has limited capacity for extension to other consumers. A proposal to supply water by gravity to Saikwa, Nasianda, Teldet and Kapretwa farms is being prepared by my Ministry and will be ready for implementation by September 2004. During this financial year, my Ministry has allocated Kshs5 million for construction and rehabilitation of rural water supplies in Trans Nzoia District and the District Development Committee (DDC) will prioritise projects to benefit from this allocation.

(c) My Ministry, through the Lake Victoria North Water Services Board has invited bids from engineering consultants to carry out detailed designs for rehabilitation of Kitale, Webuye and Bungoma water supplies under the Nzoia Cluster Water and Sanitation Project. The rehabilitation works will commence upon completion of the design which is expected to be completed within nine months after the award of the contract. In this regard, the construction should commence towards the end of this financial year. Rehabilitation of Kitale water supply will increase the current water production from 6,000 cubic metres to 14,000 cubic metres per day, which will be adequate to meet the town's water demand.

Thank you.

**Capt. Nakitare:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am impressed by the answer given by the Assistant Minister. However, much as I can say, Kitale is the hub of Kenya's agricultural sector. Kitale Town is inhabited by more than 800,000 people. When we look at the sole supply of water, it is uneconomical to have water pumped by electricity 14 miles from lower ground, and this has constrained Kitale Municipality from paying Kshs6 million per year towards water supply. We have heard the Assistant Minister say that there is a plan for water supply by gravitation. I would want to stand by two navigations. The first navigation is Teldet.

**Hon. Members:** Ask your question!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Capt. Nakitare, you know your colleagues are up in arms because they and I know that you are really not going by the rules. You are making a speech against Standing Order No.35. So, what you should do is to stand there and ask a question. That is why your colleagues are agitated because they are seeing the Speaker not enforcing the rules which I must do.

**Capt. Nakitare:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, how much longer are Kitale residents going to suffer from this water shortage by being told that we have plans in the offing?

**Mr. Munyes:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just said that Kitale water schemes have already been allocated Kshs5 million this year, just like the last financial year when we allocated them Kshs3 million. This year, we have allocated them Kshs5 million to be prioritised by the DDC members. I have also said that the Nzoia Cluster Water and Sanitation Project under which Kitale, Webuye and Bungoma falls has been allocated Kshs300 million by the Government of Germany and we have already invited bids from engineering consultants for this work and it is going to be done in the next nine months.

**Mr. Rotino:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the planning for most towns was done a long time ago with a view of serving a smaller population. What is the Ministry's plan to supply water to these growing and mushrooming towns bearing in mind that water projects were planned when the population was very small? Now that the population has grown what masterplan does the Ministry have? For example, when is the Ministry going to supply water to Kapenguria?

**Mr. Munyes:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the new legislation, we have formed water boards all over the country. For example, we formed the Lake Victoria North Water Services Board. All these boards will be actually given the task of planning in every town. For instance, Mr. Rotino's constituency falls under the Rift Valley Board. Therefore, his board will plan for the services to the respective towns.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well.

Next Question, Dr. Oburu Odinga!

**Dr. Oburu:** I am Dr. Oburu Oginga!

*Question No.576*

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO WAGUSU BEACH

**Dr. Oburu** asked the Minister for Energy when Wagusu Beach in Central Sakwa Location of Bondo Constituency will be supplied with electricity.

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

Wagusu Beach was not rated top among the projects submitted from the area for funding consideration during this financial year. Given that the amount needed for the number of projects submitted each year to the Ministry for funding from various parts of the country exceeds limited resources available, it will be programmed for future funding.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well! I take note that you are Dr. Oburu Oginga and not Dr. Oburu Odinga.

Please, ask your question Dr. Oburu Oginga!

**Dr. Oburu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not proved that Wagusu Beach was not given high ranking in prioritisation of projects in Bondo because it was supposed to be funded under the French Programme and poles were even dropped before funds were withdrawn from that project. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House how many projects are earmarked for funding in Bondo this current financial year, where he says Wagusu Beach was not prioritised? How much money has been allocated for each of the projects which are funded this year?

**Mr. Kiunjuri:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we already have Sinapanga Project where the Government has set aside Kshs7.9 million and it will be implemented this year. Secondly, we already have Uhanya Beach project funded under the French Programme. We also have a further project already set aside for the hon. Member's constituency. We have Wichlum, Ramba and Runda Beaches. All these beaches have been given priority. It is only this one beach that has not been prioritised. I request the hon. Member to be patient. He should thank us for having earmarked all those other

projects for electrification in his constituency.

**Dr. Oburu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not true that all the beaches in Bondo Constituency are earmarked for electrification. In fact, the ones he has counted are the minor ones. The major ones which are the Wichlum and Wagusu, are not planned for funding. So, I would like to know what plans there are to fund these major beaches which are the major of livelihood for our people because they produce most of the fish which is supplied to factories in Kisumu. Wagusu is only two kilometres away from Nyang'oma which already has electricity!

**Mr. Kiunjuri:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to engage the hon. Member on who is honest and who is not. The hon. Member came to our offices, sat down with us and we agreed on these projects. We prioritised these projects. So, let it be to the conscience to the hon. Member to know who is being honest. However, we are will implement that project in the near future once we get further funding.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well!

Next Question, by Mr. Sambu!

*Question No.747*

ILLEGAL ALLOCATION OF NANDI FOREST LAND

**Mr. Sambu** asked the Minister for Lands and Housing:-

- (a) when the land registration exercise for Nandi/Kamwega Section in Mosop will be completed;
- (b) whether he is aware that during the process of adjudicating this section, the surveyors alienated over 1,000 acres from the North Nandi Forest, between Kamung'ei and Kwamwega;
- (c) who were allocated this alienated Government forest land; and,
- (d) which Gazette and Legal Notice alienated this forest land.

**The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing** (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The registration exercise for Nandi/Kamwega Section in Mosop is expected to be completed by the end of September, 2005.

(b) I am not aware that, during the process of adjudicating this Section, the surveyors alienated over 1,000 acres from North Nandi Forest, between Kamung'ei and Kamwega.

What I am aware of, however, is that some people residing in the forest area outside the declared adjudication section went to court demanding that their settlements inside the forest be enjoined in the adjudication process. The court ruled that they be enjoined in the section. In the circumstances, the Ministry has no choice, but to comply with the court ruling.

(c) Those who benefited from forest land were those whom the court ruled that they be enjoined in the section.

(d) There were no Gazette or Legal Notices that alienated the said forest land, except the court ruling.

**Mr. Sambu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, when land adjudication started in that section there were no dwellings of any nature inside the forest. Therefore, the issue of people claiming that their dwellings were there is not true. Could the Assistant Minister tell this House whether the law has been changed such that it is the courts now awarding forest land to those who sue and not the de-gazettement by the Minister in charge of the forests?

**Mr. Ojode:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to give a quick reference to what the hon. Member is asking about. Kamwega adjudication section was declared on 16th August, 1998. The adjudication

register was published on 14th August, 2000. When the register was published complete, some people residing next to the forest, but cultivating inside the forest filed 62 objection cases, claiming that their area had been left out of the adjudication section. The Land Adjudication Officer heard the cases and awarded this land to the objectors. The act was actually illegal because the Land Adjudication Officer had no mandate to deal with the land outside the declared adjudication section. As a result, the Forest Department complained that there was an encroachment on the North Nandi Forest. The Director of Land Adjudication intervened and instructed that the Nandi District Forest Officer to identify that forest boundary, so that the Land Adjudication Officer could cancel all parcels outside the declared sectional boundary. The action by the Director of Land Adjudication and Settlement made the affected residents take the Government to court, and the court made a ruling in their favour. So, the current status is that the District Land Adjudication and Settlement Officer is going to technically check all the records before forwarding them to the Director of Survey for printing of the maps.

**Mr. Sirma:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, going by what the Assistant Minister has said, he is actually setting a very dangerous precedence given that there are many people who live near forests and, indeed, have actually been invading forests. Do we go by that rule, therefore, that if you are inside a forest and you get a court order, you will be allocated land? Could the Assistant Minister confirm that?

**Mr. Ojode:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is totally wrong for people to use forest land which has not been alienated officially to them. We are saying that a court case is a court case. That is why we have to take the security team there and tell those people to leave forest land. We will do that with the Questioner.

**Mr. Sambu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not aware of any court case. I have gone there with the Chief Conservator of Forests who brought surveyors but because the Land Adjudication Officer and some surveyors sold the land at a high price because it is tealand--- Who sued who and what is the case number? This is because that forest is under Trustland. Who sued who when and who was the judge?

**Mr. Ojode:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can lay the civil application on the Table.

*(Loud consultations)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, hon. Members!

**Mr. Ojode:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is miscellaneous Civil Application No.13 of 2002. The parties are John Kiptarus Lelei, Kipkorir Chebaini, Isaac Kipkendich Lelei, David Kipchirchir Lelei, Jonathan Kipsaina Kemei, Joseph Cheruiyot Koech, Joel Kipruto Kosgey--- The names are many. The matter is indicated to be in court. It is between the applicants versus Nandi District Forest Officer as the first respondent, Nandi District Adjudication Officer and Lands Settlement Officer as second respondents and the Attorney-General as the third respondent.

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Ojode lay the document on the Table for the benefit of the hon. Member!

*(Mr. Ojode laid the document on the Table)*

Very well! Let us move on to the next Question by Mr. Ndambuki.

*Question No.489*

MEASURES TO SAVE KITHANGATHINI  
COFFEE SOCIETY FROM COLLAPSE

**Mr. Ndambuki** asked the Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kithangathini Coffee Co-operative Society is on the verge of collapse due to heavy debts;

(b) how much was advanced to the co-operative society from SCIP I and II schemes; and,

(c) what plans he has to save the society from collapse.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is anyone here from the Ministry of Co-operative Development and Marketing?

**Hon. Members:** There is nobody!

**Mr. Speaker:** Where are they? Normally, they are late! They have a reputation of coming to this House late! What do I do, Mr. Ndambuki?

**Mr. Ndambuki:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister pledged to bring to the House the report which he received last week. The report recommends that the funds with respect to coffee societies should be waived.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will defer this Question to Tuesday! But, as I have said over the last one year, the Ministers in this Ministry have got a reputation of not coming to the House to answer Questions! I defer the Question to Tuesday next week.

*(Question deferred)*

Let us move on to Questions by Private Notice!

### QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

#### FAMINE IN GANZE CONSTITUENCY

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that many people in Ganze Constituency are now living on wild herbs and fruits due to lack of food occasioned by the pro-longed drought?

(b) Is he further aware that this famine has caused many students to drop out of school in order to look for the said herbs and fruits for survival?

(c) Could he consider sending emergency food supplies before the people begin to starve?

**Mr. Moroto:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I have not asked my Question!

**Mr. Speaker:** I forgot about you! You will ask your Question on Tuesday next week. It is partly your fault! You will ask your Question on Tuesday.

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

(a) I am aware there is a severe drought stress in Ganze Constituency, Kilifi District, which is as a result of consecutive poor rains and crop failure. The eating of wild fruits, tubers and herbs during famine times is a well known traditional coping mechanism in many communities in Kenya and Africa as a whole.

(b) It is possible that some students may have dropped out of school to look for herbs and fruits for survival. Kilifi District is under Government of Kenya/World Food Programme School Feeding Programme which is being implemented by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. This programme provides meals to needy pupils in primary schools in the district, Ganze Constituency included. Through the District Commissioner, Kilifi, 319 bags of maize and 99 bags of beans have been supplied to primary schools this term in Ganze Constituency but were not included in the School Feeding Programme.

Secondly, the Government has provided relief food to secondary schools in the district as food for fees. This enables schools to write off fees for needy students. These two programmes, in addition to the free primary education programme, ensure that students do not drop out of school.

(c) I will consider that.

**Mr. Kingi:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I did raise alarm over the situation in Ganze Constituency in early April. The situation was very mild at that time. I am happy that the Ministry did something about that, and we wrote to thank it for the steps it had taken. The situation now is very different and that is why I have asked this Question. How many bags of maize and beans are in our food stores today? Why could the Ministry not consider sending that food to that needy community, instead of keeping it in our stores while people starve out there?

**Dr. Machage:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Our strategic grain reserve is very depleted currently. Out of the expected three million bags, we only had 900,000 as per yesterday.

**Mr. Sasura:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to begin by informing the Assistant Minister that our secondary schools do not get food under the School Feeding Programme. But, that notwithstanding, he has said that they have supplied 319 bags of maize to primary schools in Ganze Constituency, and that they have converted them into food for fees. This means that what the fees would have been used to buy cannot be bought because food is given to schools to feed the students. Why could the Assistant Minister not consider giving secondary schools food for free and not food for fees?

**Dr. Machage:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, indeed, my Ministry has considered that. Even the Head of State is concerned about the same and hence, the statement he made a few hours ago. We will definitely make sure that our school children do not starve.

*(Several hon. Members stood  
up in their places)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Well, I know this is a very interesting subject, but I think we will come back to it later on. Mr. Kingi, ask your last question!

*(Loud consultations)*

Order, hon. Members! Who is that who is not sitting down? I think I have already intimated to the House that there is a possibility of the same issue being allocated some time today to be ventilated in the House. So, could we proceed now?

Mr. Kingi, ask your last question!

**Mr. Kingi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you heard the Assistant Minister say that we have 900,000 bags of maize and beans in our stores. Why should that food be kept in the stores today, while people are dying out there if it is meant for emergency cases? Why could that food not be removed from the stores and sent to Ganze Constituency, Turkana District and other places which have been hit by famine?

*(Applause)*

**Dr. Machage:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, indeed, we are not just storing the food, but we are distributing it gradually. A total of three million bags have been removed from the stores in a planned way, leaving a balance of 900,000 bags. That is self-explanatory.

**Mr. Mwandawiro:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to say that food is being removed from the stores gradually, while we know that people are

on the brink of starvation?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! That is not a point of order!

Next Question, Mr. Kembi-Gitura!

IRREGULAR ALLOCATION OF  
KARURUMO COFFEE NURSERY LAND

**Mr. Kembi-Gitura:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask Minister for Local Government the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that land reference No.LOC11/Gaitega/355 which was on 15th February, 1965 registered in the name of the County Council of Murang'a in Trust of Karurumo Coffee Nursery has been allotted by the said county council to some individuals to the exclusion of its rightful beneficiaries, and is now causing a lot of tension amongst the people?

(b) What action will the Minister take to ensure that the said piece of land reverts back to its rightful owners; that is, the people of Gaitega Village in Mbiri Location of Murang'a District?

**The Assistant Minister for Local Government** (Mr. Tarus): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we answered this Question yesterday. I would like to confirm to the House that the issue of special trust came out very clearly yesterday. As a Ministry, we have decided to send an independent team to go and verify the ownership of the properties allocated by the council. If they are owned by individuals and not the public, we shall take the necessary action to revoke the same.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well, Mr. Kembi-Gitura! This is just a repeat of that subject only.

**Mr. Kembi-Gitura:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to the Assistant Minister for the initiative he has taken, and the seriousness with which he has taken the issue. I gave him some write-up yesterday. But, as he goes to Murang'a to verify the actual position on the ground, I would like him to note that, apart from the several institutions that have been given those pieces of land, there are individuals there, whose names I gave to him--- There is a former chief, current assistant chief and some other two people. He has all those details. That is the right way to go about it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in that event, we need to have a return date, when he is going to inform the House of the outcome.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. We cannot keep a Question waiting for ever! I think we trust what the Assistant Minister says. If he does not do as he says, you can revisit the issue after six months. But I hope he will keep his word.

**Mr. Tarus:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will keep our word.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will hold it against you, if you do not.

Next Question, Mr. J.M. Mutiso!

FAMINE IN MAKUENI DISTRICT

**Mr. J.M. Mutiso:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Education, Science and Technology the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that famine is ravaging Kilome and Kasikeu divisions in Makueni District?

(b) Is he aware that pupils in primary schools are not attending school due to the discontinuation of the School Feeding Programme?

(c) Could the Minister consider suspending payment of school fees in secondary schools until the famine is over in the district?

**The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology** (Dr. Mwiria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Kilome and Kasikeu divisions of Makueni District are experiencing a famine situation.

(b) I am not aware that pupils in primary schools in the divisions are not attending school due to scrapping of the School Feeding Programme. I have confirmed from the District Education Office, Makueni, that the children are attending school regularly in the two divisions, and even in the divisions where the situation is more severe.

(c) The Ministry has not considered suspending payment of school fees in secondary schools until the famine is over in the district.

**Mr. J.M. Mutiso:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, let me thank the Assistant Minister for the answer he has given. However, I would like to ask the Assistant Minister why was the School Feeding Programme scrapped in Kilome and Kasikeu divisions? What criteria was used to scrap the programme and yet, they knew that the areas were affected by famine?

**Dr. Mwiria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, those two divisions were only on an emergency programme that covered only six months. That programme was renewed several times from 2002, until last year. Following some kind of assessment by the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Steering Committee on the School Feeding Programme, they decided that the situation in the divisions was not as severe as in some other divisions in Makueni District. That was the basis of scrapping the programme. But, unfortunately, nobody anticipated that we would be having a crisis now. If there was that anticipation, those divisions would not have been left out. However, the decision was based on an assessment that established that the situation was not as severe as it was in other divisions of Makueni District.

**Ms. Mwau:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell this House when the School Feeding Programme will be reinstated? The whole of Makueni District has famine. The School Feeding Programme must be put in place, if the free primary education is to be successful.

**Dr. Mwiria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, that applies to the whole country and negotiations are going on. Therefore, there is a chance that we are going to resume the programme this year, for another period of eight years. That is a national problem and an appeal has been sent out nationally and internationally. I hope we will touch all the schools that are involved.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think I will give Mr. Ndambuki the last chance to ask a question.

**Mr. Ndambuki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has said that they might consider starting that programme this year. Could he tell us when? It might take a whole year and many children may drop out of school.

**Dr. Mwiria:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, that can only be confirmed after those who were supporting the programme have agreed to restart it. The negotiations are going on and we would like to start as soon as possible.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall I come to the last Question on the Order Paper?

Mr. Muriungi, please, proceed!

IMPRISONMENT OF MASTER  
MISHECK MWITI

**Mr. Muriungi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Vice President and Minister for Home Affairs the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that Master Misheck Mwiti, aged 15 years, a pupil at Ntuui Primary School is serving a one-year jail term at Kangeta G.K. Prison?

(b) Is he further aware that before the incarceration, he had his index finger amputated by one, Elijah Muua, who is still a free person?

(c) When will the minor be released from prison and sent back to school?

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs** (Mr. Too): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Master Misheck Mwiti was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment after being convicted of assault by the Senior Resident Magistrate at Maua.

(b) I am also aware that Master Misheck Mwiti was admitted to prison with his index finger amputated, I do not know the circumstances under which he suffered that fate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as to the question of apprehension of his assailant, that falls under a different docket.

(c) The convict, Master Misheck Mwiti, was examined by doctors for age assessment, and was found to be above 18 years. Therefore, the question of releasing him does not arise.

**Mr. Muriungi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this answer is most unsatisfactory, and it shows how insensitive the Assistant Minister is to the plight of children. The boy's problems began when his finger was cut off by a person who is known! He is even mentioned in the Question by---

**Mr. Speaker:** Can I help you? Let me transfer this Question to the Office of the President, so that they can deal with the culprit.

**Mr. Muriungi:** So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it deferred?

**Mr. Speaker:** I will defer the Question, and have it transferred to the Office of the President. So, it will come on Wednesday. Is that okay?

**Mr. Muriungi:** That is okay, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** All right! It is so ordered.

*(Question deferred)*

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

NATIONAL ROADS CONFERENCE  
FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Next Order! Where is Mr. Ethuro?

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

Order! Mr. Ethuro you must be alert! You are ordered to be alert now!

In the meantime, I wish to bring to the attention of hon. Members, or rather, to remind you of a planned National Roads Conference for Members of Parliament. It is organised by the Ministry of Roads and Public Works from the 18th to the 20th of July. I believe you already have circulars to that effect. I am informed by the Minister for Roads and Public Works that hon. Members are invited to the conference to be held on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th. But, the registration will be on 18th. That is why I am saying it will run from 18th to 20th July. So you will register on Sunday 18th, report for the conference on 19th and 20th in the morning. That is because there will be the business of the House in the afternoon. Hon. Members may register on Sunday 18th at the Bomas of Kenya. The programme is already at the Reception Desk.

May I also say that I will direct the Clerk of the National Assembly to make the necessary facilitation to hon. Members for the three days. I hope you understand what I mean.

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Moroto:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you promised that you will revisit my Question. The

Minister is ready to answer my Question now.

**Mr. Speaker:** Your Question has been deferred until Tuesday, next week. Why were you late?

Proceed, Mr. Ethuro!

**NOTICE OF MOTION FOR  
THE ADJOURNMENT  
UNDER STANDING ORDER NO.20**

DROUGHT/FAMINE SITUATION  
IN THE COUNTRY

**Mr. Ethuro:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Pursuant to Standing Order No.20, I wish to give notice of Motion for the adjournment of the House to discuss an urgent matter of national importance which is the famine ravaging Kenyans in general and others in particular.

**Mr. Speaker:** Do you have the requisite numbers?

*(A number of hon. Members stood  
up in their places)  
(Loud consultations)*

Order, Members! You may take your seats now.

For the benefit of all hon. Members, particularly those who have not recently visited there Standing Orders and for those who may wish to take advantage of this particular Standing Order, I wish to read the relevant Standing Orders so that we all understand what Mr. Ethuro is up to.

It states:-

" (1) Any Member may at any time rise in his place and seek leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent national importance".

Standing Order No.20(2) states thus:-

"(2) A Member who wishes to seek leave to move the adjournment of the House shall, at least two hours before the commencement of the sitting, hand to Mr. Speaker a written notification of the matter he wishes to discuss. Mr. Speaker shall refuse to allow the claim unless he is satisfied that the matter is definite, urgent and of national importance and may properly be raised on a Motion for the adjournment of the House."

I want to take you through all the relevant Standing Orders so that we all understand.

Standing Order 20(3) states that:-

"(3) If Mr. Speaker is so satisfied and not less than 15 other Members rise in their places in support, Mr. Speaker shall nominate a time on the same day at which such a Motion may be moved."

Standing Order No.20(4) states:-

"(4) No Member speaking on any such matter shall speak for more than ten minutes without the leave of the House except that the Mover and one Minister may speak for 15 minutes each."

Standing Order No.20(5) states:-

"(5) The moving of a Motion under the provisions of this Standing Order shall not prejudice the moving of a Motion under the provisions of Standing Order

No.17(Hours of Meeting) during the same sitting"

For the benefit of the House again, I will read Standing Order No.17 which states:-

"Unless for the convenience of the House Mr. Speaker otherwise directs, the House shall meet at 9.00 a.m on Wednesday mornings and at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, but more than one sitting may be directed during the same day."

So, this means that whatever time you get today, you could actually extend if you wanted to. First of all, Mr. Ethuro gave me the notification within the time prescribed by law. So, he is within the Standing Order. I am also satisfied that the matter being raised by the hon. Member is definite, urgent - most of you witnessed this afternoon various hon. Members in this House raise issues on famine in this country and, indeed, His Excellency the President himself has made a public appeal with regard to this issue. I agree that this is an urgent matter. I further agree that it is of national importance. Therefore, I accede to the request by the hon. Member and I will allot him time to move the Motion for the Adjournment under Standing Order No.20 this afternoon at 5.00 p.m. This, in my view gives the House some adequate time to discuss this issue which will take one and half hours. The House may wish, in the course of the debate, to join His Excellency the President in making that appeal both locally and internationally.

Mr. Ethuro, you will move the Motion at 5.00 p.m.

## POINTS OF ORDER

### MINING OF MARSABIT-MOYALE ROAD

**Mr. Sasura:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to seek a Ministerial Statement from the Minister of State, Office of the President.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, only a few months ago, on the international road A2, between Marsabit and Moyale, a stretch of 260 kilometres, a landmine killed our people. A Government of Kenya (GoK) vehicle was destroyed---

*(Several hon. Members started  
to withdraw from the Chamber)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, Members! This is a very rare occasion for me to ask hon. Members to sit down because Mr. Sasura is talking about a calamity that is facing Kenyans and some hon. Members are just walking away!

Proceed, Mr. Sasura!

**Mr. Sasura:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that a few months ago, a Government vehicle was blown up and an Officer Commanding Station (OCS) and his driver were killed. A few weeks later, on the same road, a civilian's vehicle was blown up and the owner of the vehicle was killed. Last week a camel crossing the road at a section near Moyale was blown up into pieces. As I speak now, all motorists going to and coming from Moyale are stranded either in Nairobi or Moyale. The furthest they can go is Marsabit because they fear being blown up. That road has been mined.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to request the following clarifications in the Minister's Statement: Firstly, he should give us a status report and secondly, an assurance that the road has been demined. He should also declare the road safe for travel by Kenyans. The Minister should also tell us what the Government is going to do about the situation on the road because Kenya is not at war with any country. We are talking about hunger. So, imagine a hungry person who is frightened about going to look for food. We must use that road.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, lastly, there is some food on the Ethiopian side of the border which comes

to us through Marsabit. We cannot get this food for fear of mines. Could the Minister give a Statement, as soon as possible, to reassure all the stranded people in Marsabit and Nairobi that all is well?

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. Are you ready, Dr. Murungaru?

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Dr. Murungaru): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will be able to provide that Statement next week, on Wednesday in the afternoon.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. Can we now move on to the next Order?

**Mr. Ojaamong:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, Mr. Ojaamong. I was forgetting about you. You used to sit on the Government side.

*(Laughter)*

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE  
AND RULE OF LAW

**Mr. Ojaamong:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here because the Constitution was not being followed and as a result some strangers came to my side and displaced me.

*(Laughter)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to seek a Ministerial Statement from the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs over the near-collapse of the administration of justice in the "Democratic" Republic of Kenya. When the NARC---

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, Mr. Ojaamong! Use the words recognised by the Constitution. As far as we know, we have the "Republic of Kenya" and not the "Democratic Republic of Kenya". I do not know whether that exists!

**Mr. Ojaamong:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I meant the Republic of Kenya.

When the NARC Government took over, it promised to streamline the administration of justice and uphold the rule of law in Kenya.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a first step, magistrates and judges were relieved of their duties. But what happened thereafter is that the replacements were not done, to the extent that to date, we have a backlog of cases. The replacement of judges and magistrates and their transfers in various parts of the country are being done in a very haphazard and irregular way, to the extent that some areas do not even have the judicial officers and lawyers go to courts, their cases are not attended to and they collapse.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am now seeking a comprehensive Ministerial Statement from the Minister addressing the following:-

1. How he is going to ensure that the magistrates and the judges who were dismissed are urgently replaced to reduce the backlog of cases in courts.

2. Some of the judges who were replaced were in the final stages of making judgement for some people in custody. They did not return the files, but went away with the judgements they had made. These people are still in custody and their fate cannot be known. What is he going to do to retrieve these files from the judges who ran away with these judgements?

3. My third point is on irregular transfers. For example, currently in Kakamega, we only

have one Principal Magistrate, who is attending a seminar; we have only one Judge who is also on holiday. As a result, there is a tragedy waiting to happen there as some people are even likely to die in custody.

When is he going to address these issues countrywide?

4. Finally, the Minister decided to recruit some people. Out of the 82 magistrates who were dismissed, around 47 were approached to be enlisted as magistrates. Only 15 of accepted, and out of the 15 who accepted, when they realized that the terms and conditions of service were very unfavourable, they also left. As a result, we now have only around five or so remaining. What is he doing to address or improve the terms and conditions of service of these magistrates?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well! Are you ready, Mr. Murungi? I am sure you are not.

**The Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs** (Mr. Murungi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not ready, and we need some time to prepare this comprehensive Ministerial Statement. I request you to give me up to Thursday next week to come up with this Ministerial Statement. Thank you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well!

Next Order!

## BILLS

### *First Readings*

#### THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL

*(Order for First Reading read -  
Read the First Time - Ordered to be referred  
to the relevant Departmental Committee)*

#### THE CONSTITUTION OF KENYA REVIEW (AMENDMENT) BILL

*(Order for First Reading read -  
Read the First Time)*

**The Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs** (Mr. Murungi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

I beg to move that the Constitution of Kenya Review (Amendment) Bill, Bill No. 15, be read the First Time---

**Mr. Speaker:** What are you doing? It has already been read! I thought you tentatively did not want to refer it to any Committee?

**The Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs** (Mr. Murungi): Sorry, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am not making any requests for this Bill to be referred to any Committee.

**Hon. Members:** Why? Why?

**Mr. Speaker:** Maybe the House should understand why. Recently, you created the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Constitution. They will be meeting tomorrow to seek the

way forward, and out of the deliberations, maybe, we will know where to direct this Bill. So, that is the reason.

Very well, next Order!

### MOTION

#### ADOPTION OF SESSIONAL PAPER NO.4 ON ENERGY

THAT, this House adopts Sessional Paper No.4 on Energy laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 15th July, 2004.

*(The Assistant Minister for Energy  
(Mr. Kiunjuri) on 30.6.2004)*

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted  
on 8.7.2004)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! Order, hon. Members! Who was on the Floor? Mr. Kagwima, you have 15 minutes!

**Mr. Kagwima:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to recognize the efforts of the Ministry of Energy for coming up with this beautiful document. In particular, the formation of the Rural Electrification Authority will ensure that there is equitable distribution of electricity in the rural areas.

*(Loud consultations)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, Members! Order! Order! I once again remind the House that we have been dealing with matters other than business, and we are just getting into the business of the House. So, those who are not in a position to sit and participate, please, take your leave quietly.

Proceed, Mr. Kagwima!

**Mr. Kagwima:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It was getting more difficult for me to communicate.

I had started by saying that this Sessional Paper is very good and, in particular, when it creates the Rural Electrification Authority, that is a new thing. It is my hope that this authority will ensure that we have equitable distribution of electricity in the country, so that the rural parts of the country can also have electricity to meet their needs. This will also help us to set up rural industrialization. Cities like Nairobi, Mombasa and a Town like Thika and so forth are overpopulated because of people going there to seek employment. But if we have electricity in the rural areas, we shall have industries there, thus retaining the populations there. As a result, we shall have increased productivity in the rural areas where the majority of our people live.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, last Thursday, I erroneously said that we had forgotten about biomass. But I am happy to note that biomass is properly covered in this Sessional Paper. The Sessional Paper says that over 65 per cent of our energy needs are met by biomass. This is energy derived from wood fuel and forestry related products.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we speak, our country has a big shortfall of wood fuel and nothing seems to be being done to alleviate that shortage. I want to ask the Minister for Energy to liaise with the other relevant Government Departments, so that we can quickly increase our forest cover, wood fuel and biomass. We need not only to have Government forests, but also forests owned by farmers

in their farms. We can do this by encouraging the farmers and availing cheap finance to them. I know the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) is giving funds to farmers, but they are financing the usual crops like coffee, tea and cotton.

I want to request that the AFC includes the portfolio of financing agro-forestry, so that farmers can borrow on long-term basis. They can borrow on long-term basis from the AFC and other financiers to develop agro-forestry and keep the money until such a time that the trees mature. I am talking of loans which have a repayment period of five years. In five years' time, the trees will have matured, and if the demand is there, the farmers will sell the wood and get money to repay the loan to the AFC and the other would-be financiers. This will increase our supply of energy from the biomass sector. Apart from providing wood fuel, we will also provide other wood products, like timber.

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to appreciate the fact that this Sessional Paper spells very clearly the laws of the various organisations that are involved, including KenGen, the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and the Ministry of Energy. This beautiful document should not end up in the shelves. Kenya, like any other developing country, is very good in planning. We keep referring to the Sessional Paper No.10 of 1980, but what use have we put of it? This is another beautiful Sessional Paper on Energy, covering the sector very well. We should make use of it. Let us work for this country and sacrifice ourselves, so that our economy can grow more than it has done.

The same Paper talks about coal deposits in the country. It is good we have recognised that those deposits exist. Kenya has not produced any steel from our iron ore deposits because we did not know that we had coal deposits in the country. I want to request the Ministry to quantify the coal deposits, so that we can attract investors to come and exploit them. The same deposits can be used to convert iron ore deposits into steel. This country is spending a lot of money in foreign currency to import steel. Even if we produce 20 per cent of the steel that we import, this country will have saved billions of shillings in foreign currency. This is important and urgent. I am happy the Ministry of Energy recognises those deposits in both Kitui and Mwingi. I am sure with further exploration, we might discover more coal deposits.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, coal is a very cheap source of energy. We need it not only for the purpose of smelting iron ore into steel, but also to produce electricity and in the manufacture of cement. Currently, we are importing a lot of coal to be used in the cement industry. The East African Portland Cement, Bamburi Factory, and the Athi River Mining Factory are all using imported coal. So, it is very urgent for this country to go into coal mining. There are very many interested investors, but we must establish the quantity of coal which is available. The Ministry of Energy should liaise with the Ministry of Trade and Industry to harmonise the rules of investing and make it easier for investors to invest in coal mining.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, attempts to start titanium mining in Kwale have taken many years. It is fortunate that company comes from a country that can give long-term financing. If it was a Kenyan firm, it would have failed because the issue has dragged on for ten years. When investors come to invest, especially in mining and in the energy sector, we should shorten the period of processing of the licence. We should encourage not only foreign investors, but also, local investors. Even local investors require to be assured that when they want to invest, they will be facilitated.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, moving to the other topic on this Sessional Paper, we

have small hydro-power stations.

**Mr. Rotino:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order that when we are discussing a very important Motion like this, the Minister who is supposed to be taking notes is not here? Nobody from the Ministry is here.

**An hon. Member:** Mr. Kiunjuri is here!

**Mr. Rotino:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is seated at the Back-Bench.

**The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri):** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this bench is reserved for Assistant Ministers, and I am quite in order to sit here.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghisi):** That is okay. It is understood.

Proceed, Mr. Kagwima!

**Mr. Kagwima:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy that the Assistant Minister is taking notes. I was talking about the small hydro-power stations.

The Ministry has proposed to allow private investors to produce electricity which the Ministry or the KPLC can buy for distribution to this country. That will quicken the supply of electricity. There are very many rivers in this country and each one of them has a small fall at some point. If we encourage private investors to invest in this sector, I am sure they will produce some electricity which can be brought to the national grid and distributed to Kenyans. This is a very welcome move. Let us move quickly and put the required laws in place. Personally, I would want to take interest in that kind of investment as an engineer. Rivers meander from Mount Kenya and go to other places, but finally they come to Tharaka. So, we have about 12 permanent rivers and each one of them has a big fall. If investors are allowed to invest in Tharaka, we will have 12 hydro-power stations. That part of the country does not have a single point of electricity and yet the sources are there. That is why I am encouraging the Government to construct more hydro-electric power stations. These stations could be used to drive water pumps and pump water that has been going to waste for many years. The same hydro-electric power stations can be used to pump and supply water to surrounding areas, provide water for irrigation and planting trees, which we need for production of biomass. The practice would have a multiplier effect on provision of energy. When we plant trees, we create long-term sources of energy.

I want to support the issue of concessioning. This Paper proposes that the energy sector be left to the private sector and relevant Government parastatals. Let us allow private developers to develop energy sources through concessioning. The Government could buy privately-produced power and distribute it to Kenyans. The Government could also buy the same parastatals after concessioning and benefit Kenyans. That way, we shall be widening our financial base. The Ministry wants to implement this Sessional Paper, although it does not have financial resources. The concessioning aspect will attract more money into this sector. We should move fast in this direction. I know that the same issue has been talked about in the roads sector. The Minister in charge has been telling us about it since last year. Since we have been getting ideas, let us learn how to implement them. The issue of concessioning in terms of roads should be brought to this House and then implemented. I am sure that the money we are looking for can be found in the private sector. The energy sector can give us higher returns than the agricultural sector. We say that our economy is based on agriculture. However, agriculture has the lowest returns amongst all forms of investment.

I want to end by saying that as soon as this Paper is passed, we should have a Bill brought to this House so that it can be enacted into law as soon as possible for the benefit of Kenyans. During the introduction of this Paper, the Minister mentioned the power shortfall we have in this country. This Sessional Paper can help us reduce the shortfall. We also know that countries with few sources of energy develop at a slow pace. If we want to have our economy growing at a fast rate, then we should address issues regarding the energy sector.

I do not know if the Minister has looked at the Ministry's budget. There is one district that has been omitted from the Ministry of Energy's Vote. This Ministry has not made budgetary allocations to Tharaka District. I do not know what will happen when the Vote is brought to this House. I do not know what the Minister expects of me. The matter is very serious. I want the Minister to look into the issue before the Vote is brought to this House. He should recognise the district and allocate it some money. It could even be as little as Kshs1 million, because he has already done his allocations. He should recognise it as one of the districts that should be supplied with electricity.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori):** Ahsante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipa nafasi hii ili niungane na wenzangu katika kuuchangia mjadala huu kuhusu kawi. Nitaanza kwa kuzungumzia faida tutakayopata ikiwa tutakuwa na sera bora katika sekta ya kawi. Kwanza, tukiwa na sera bora kuhusu kawi tutakuwa na nguvu za umeme za kutusaidia. Jambo la kwanza kabisa, tunafaa kufikiria jambo la uhifadhi wa mazingira. Tunataka misitu yetu iwe inahifadhiwa na isiharibiwe. Nikisema hivi, ninamaanisha kwamba tunapojadiliana hapa, inafaa tuwe tunavichunga vitendo vyetu. Tunapojadiliana, tunaweza kuchukua hatua ambayo inaweza kuharibu mambo katika siku za usoni.

Hivi majuzi, tulikuwa na Mswada hapa kuhusu uhifadhi wa misitu. Kwa sababu fulani, wengi waliukataa Mswada huo. Mswada huo ni lazima ungoje hadi miezi sita ipite ili urudishwe hapa. Wakati huu, Wabunge wengi walioukataa Mswada huo wa kuhifadhi misitu watasimama hapa na kusema kwamba wanataka utoaji kawi uimarishwe. Katika miezi sita tunapongoja Mswada huo urudishwe hapa, huenda misitu yetu itaharibiwa vibaya sana. Katika kuhifadhi misitu, ni lazima tuwe na sheria ya kuhakikisha kwamba kuni haitumiwi nyumbani kwa kupika.

Kuna viwanda ambavyo hutumia mbao, au kuni kubwa katika kazi zao. Tunataka kuwe na sheria ambayo itawakataza wakurungenzi wa viwanda kutumia misitu, kwa sababu misitu huchukua miaka mingi sana kukua. Kuna miti ambayo huchukua miaka 40, 90, na hata 100 kukomaa. Tusipochukua hatua wakati huu na kuhifadhi misitu, vizazi vinavyokuja vitakuwa na shida, na sisi ndio tutakuwa tumefanya maovu. Kuhifadhi misitu kutawasaidia mama zetu kwa kuinua hali ya maisha yao. Tunataka sasa wakome kutumia kuni na kutumia njia za kisasa ili maisha yao pia yaimarike.

Tunataka sekta ya kawi iimarike ili tuweze kupanua mipango ya maendeleo. Ukiangalia mashinani, au popote ambapo nguvu za umeme zimepelekwa, utaona kuwa vijana wetu huanzisha kazi za jua kali ambazo huongeza nafasi za kazi. Katika vijiji vingi huko mashinani, ambapo nguvu za umeme zimeletwa, watu wamekoma kwenda mijini mikubwa kununua madirisha na masunduku ya vyuma kwa sababu vitu hivi vinatengenezwa pale pale. Jambo hili litapunguza bei ya bidhaa ndipo wazee, vijana, akina mama na watoto waweze kuzipata kwa urahisi. Huu ni wakati wa kujaribu kufufua uchumi. Kufufua uchumi kunahitaji bei nafuu ya vifaa.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa vile dunia imekuwa kijiji kidogo, kumekuwa na mashindano makubwa na ni lazima gharama ya kutengeneza vifaa vyetu irudi chini ili tushindane na vifaa kutoka sehemu nyingine za ulimwengu. Jambo la kwanza ni kuhakikisha kwamba bei ya kawi ni nafuu. Tunataka tuwe na nguvu za umeme ambazo tunaweza kutegemea. Hatutaki kuona nguvu za umeme zikipotea kila wakati. Wakati zinapopotea, vifaa vingi vinavyotumia nguvu za umeme huharibika na kuleta hasara. Kwa mfano, kama hatuna nguvu za umeme za kutegemewa katika viwanda, mara nyingi mashine zitaharibika. Mashine zikiharibika zinahitaji kurekebishwa. Jambo hili litawafanya wenye viwanda waongeze bei za bidhaa zinazotengenezwa katika hivyo viwanda. Kwa hivyo tunataka kawi ambayo tunaweza kutegemea.

Tunataka usafiri mwema. Huu ni wakati wa kuchukua hatua ya pili kuongeza reli zetu. Reli zetu zilijengwa zaidi ya miaka 100 iliyopita. Katika miaka hii yote hatujaongeza hata inchi moja. Umefika wakati wa kujenga laini nyingi za reli kutoka Mombasa kupitia Nairobi, Kisumu mpaka

Tororo. Tunataka tuwe na laini nyingi za reli kutoka Nairobi kwenda Nanyuki na sehemu nyingine ili kutumia reli sana na kuhifadhi barabara zetu. Wakati umewadia sasa kwetu kujenga reli inayotumia nguvu za umeme.

Katika miji mikubwa tuliyo nayo kama Nairobi, Kisumu, Mombasa, Nyeri na kwingineko kuna msongamano mwingi sana wa magari kwa sababu kuna aina moja tu ya usafiri inayoweza kutumiwa na watu wengi kwa pamoja kuja kazini na kurudi nyumbani. Aina moja ya usafiri unaoweza kutusaidia ni reli, lakini hatuwezi kufaulu ikiwa tunatumia petroli. Tunahitaji nguvu za umeme ili tuwapatie watu nafasi ya kusafiri kwa magari moshi ambayo yanatumia stima. Magari moshi hayo yatakuwa yakienda haraka, nauli itakuwa nafuu, na hatutakuwa na msongamano mwingi sana katika barabara. Hii pia itaongeza ajira kwa watu wetu. Kwa hivyo, inafaa tufikirie tutakavyoweza kuongeza laini za reli zinazotumia nguvu za umeme.

Wakati huu Southern Sudan karibu itapate uhuru wake. Kutakuwa na kazi nyingi sana huko. Tutakuwa tunatuma watu wetu kutafuta kazi huko. Tutakuwa tunafanya biashara huko. Hakuna njia bora ya kupeleka bidhaa huko isipokuwa kutumia reli. Jambo ambalo litafanya bei ya bidhaa yetu iwe nafuu ni reli inayotumia nguvu za umeme. Magari moshi yanayotumia stima ndio mtindo ulioko wakati huu. Mjadala huu unaonyesha kuwa kuna njia nyingi ambazo zinaweza kutumiwa kutupatia kawi. Tunatumia maji kutoa stima. Lakini tunataka kufikiria njia nyingine ambazo zitaweza kupunguza bei ya kutoa kawi. Utumiaji wa maji ndio unaojulikana zaidi na tunaweza kuendelea nao. Tuna mito mikubwa katika nchi hii ambayo hatujaitumia kikamilifu. Wale ambao walianzisha kutoa nguvu za umeme kwa kutumia maji waliacha mito ambayo huwa na maji mwaka mzima. Walienda kwa mito ambayo maji yake hupotea wakati wowote. Tunataka sasa kutumia mito ambayo ina hatari kwa wananchi. Tunataka kutumia mito kama Nzoia na mingineo kutoa nguvu za umeme ili kutokea kwa mafuriko katika Nyando, Budalangi, Tana River na kwingineko liwe jambo la siku zilizopita. Tunafaa kutumia maji hayo kutoa nguvu za umeme.

Ninajua, kwa mfano, kwamba kuna sehemu fulani ambako jua linaweza kutoa kawi kwa muda mrefu. Kinachotakikana ni pesa za kuanzisha miradi. Ni afadhali tutafute rasilmali wakati huu. Inafaa tutumie pesa nyingi ambazo zitatuwezesha kutoa nguvu za umeme kutoka kwa jua kwa sababu utoaji wa kawi kwa njia hii hauhitaji pesa nyingi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kuna njia nyingine za utoaji kawi ambazo nchi nyingine zimeanza kutumia lakini sisi hatujaanza kuzijaribu. Utafiti umefanywa na ikajulikana kwamba upepo unaweza kutusaidia sana kupata nguvu za umeme kwa gharama ya chini. Katika sehemu za Marsabit watafiti wamegundua kwamba tunaweza kutumia upepo kutoa zaidi ya 4,000 megawatts. Wakati huu matumizi ya kawi katika nchi nzima ni chini ya 1,000 megawatts. Tukitumia rasilmali nyingi katika Marsabit tutapata nguvu za umeme ambazo zitatusaidia katika nchi nzima.

Kuna mvuke katika Bonde la Ufa ambao unatoa nguvu za umeme katika sehemu za Naivasha, Longonot na kwingineko. Kuna sehemu nyingine kama Baringo na kwingineko ambako tunaweza kutumia mvuke na kuongeza nguvu za umeme. Inafaa tuanze kutumia vyo vikiu kufanya utafiti wa aina nyingi. Wakati huu vyo vikiu vinapata shida sana kupata pesa za kuendesha mambo yake. Tukiwasaidia wanasayansi kufanya utafiti, wataweza kwanza kujitegemea na pia kugundua mambo mapya ambayo yataisaidia nchi yetu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, juzi nilizuru nchi ya Amerika na nilimwona kijana mmoja anayefanya kazi ya utafiti. Nilifurahi kuona ameunda chombo kimoja kidogo ambacho ni kama jenereta ambacho kinatumia maji au mchanga ili kuwapa umeme zaidi ya watu 100. Kwa hivyo, Hoja hii imeletwa hapa wakati unaofaa. Hii ni kwa sababu tunaweza kuwa na mbinu nyingi za kupata umeme katika nchi yetu. Kwa hivyo, tunahitajika sote kushirikiana ili tuendeleo katika sekta hii. Tunataka maisha ya watu wetu wanaoishi mashambani yaimarika ili wafanye kazi zao kwa bidii.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninaunga mkono mhe. Mbunge aliyesema wakati umefika kwa sisi kuwakubalia watu binafsi na mashirika ya kibinafsi kujihusisha na sekta hii. Iwapo watafaulu,

basi tutapata umeme wa kutosha.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo machacha, naunga mkono Hoja hii.

**Dr. Godana:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to make some modest contribution to the Motion before the House.

The development goals that we have defined for ourselves, for example, eradicating poverty, industrialisation by the year 2000 and inviting foreign investors, among others, all require sustainable and cheap availability of energy. In that sense, therefore, it is right that the Ministry of Energy should indicate that it is up to the challenge it has been entrusted with of reviewing the energy policy and forward plans from time to time. It is also obvious that the energy sector is performing so poorly that, in fact, it has turned out to be an impediment to the realization of our goals. A major setback to many would-be investors who want to invest in this country is the realization that our power costs are about the highest in the Sub-Saharan African region. Therefore, power is a major input into the costs of manufacturing, and it is becoming a reason for many companies, indeed; even local companies, beginning to open manufacturing plants in some of our neighbouring countries. Some of these companies closed down here to move to Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia, particularly since the NARC Government came to power.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while in principle, therefore, this Sessional Paper is welcome, I am afraid I find on reading it, that in many ways, it is pedestrian. It does not really live up to the expectation of what a Sessional Paper should do. The purpose of bringing a Sessional Paper to Parliament is to give hon. Members an opportunity to ventilate and contribute to the ideas with a view to the technocrats and the draftsmen at the Attorney-General's Chambers and the Ministry, integrating those comments into the Bill which they intend to bring here. So, the Sessional Paper is not law. It is supposed to indicate to us the path that the Ministry wants to follow. In particular, it is a precursor of legislative reform which is supposed to come.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am afraid this Sessional Paper does not live up to expectation. Whereas it is up to expectation in terms of analysing our current energy situation, but it is not up to expectation in terms of showing us the way forward to a sustainable energy policy. People have talked about the hydro-power generation capacity of this country. We have to accept that we are a water-deficit country. With the phenomenon of desertification around, for sure, I do not think that capacity can increase; it can only decrease as rainfall patterns become increasingly spattered and as river flows become increasingly seasonal. I have seen there are provisions, for example, in this Sessional Paper, and recommendations, that we will increase the capacity of storage of water on some of the existing dams and that there will also be a move towards many hydro-dams. These are all welcome, but this will be drops of water in an ocean. They cannot by themselves make major changes.

I am a bit surprised that in the area of renewable energy, for which we have virtually limitless potential; solar and wind energy, we are repeating the same old story about the desire and commitment to encourage development of solar and wind energy. Recently, I saw a report of a study by USAID of wind power potential in this country. Earlier, we have seen, and I am sure the Ministry must have, within its records, seen the studies produced by Japanese experts under the integrated programme on ASAL lands on Mount Kulal, near the southern tip of Lake Turkana. That study said Mount Kulal has the power to generate more than 2,000 megawatts of electricity from wind. I have now seen a caption of a study by USAID which indicates that the Marsabit mountain has the capacity to produce 4,000 megawatts of power from wind. Only this week, interested foreign investors have written to the Permanent Secretary and the Minister seeking appointments for people who want to visit, to put up private commercial generating plants, but unfortunately, they are disappointed that in a place that has the capacity for 4,000 megawatts, our law allows no more than 50 megawatts per single investor.

I am sure, the Assistant Minister knows that the first commercial electricity from wind was

actually put up at Mt. Marsabit. Now, technology has developed so fast that I am sure his colleague from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, who is a friend of the Greens in Germany, must have seen how much the Germans, the Dutch and all the countries of the plains of Northern Germany have actually switched to wind power generation. We have that potential here, and I do not find enough of really capable policy programmes or a forward plan on what we intend to do there. I think the earlier we adopt the right strategy and focus on the energy of the future, the better.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know there is a lot of excitement about the potential of discovery of oil in this country. I also believe that, in fact, there are enormous oil resources in this country. In fact, there are some oil exploring companies who rushed to Northern Kenya; to Turkana and Marsabit districts, to the north east, and they managed to pump out oil. However, later they came to tell us: "Some of it has too much sulphur, among other things" This does not mean that the potential is not there; it is enormous. However, I think it is godsend that we actually did not extract that oil. I think, given the situation in this country; given the rapacity with which the elites in this country have become corrupt, and knowing what the impact of massive oil production as a new economic resource has meant in the rest of Africa, I think Kenyans should pray that they never become an oil power. They should pray that God does not allow them to get this oil out of the ground.

If you look at Nigeria, the fifth largest oil producer in the world, 20 years ago it had 75 per cent of its population above the poverty line. Today, they have 75 per cent of the population below the poverty line, thanks to the corrupting power of oil. Other examples are, Angola, Congo-Brazzaville, Congo-Kinshasa, and virtually every country in this continent which has gone through civil strife and collapsed. A good example is Sudan, our neighbour here, which has gone through civil strife because of the politics of oil. So, I wish, in fact, that the Ministry will not put a major finger on the hopes of discovering oil as a solution to its energy problems. It could actually be the sure way to send this country to collapse, especially at this time when with the NARC administration, we find all the energy and desire to beat past records of grand corruption. I pray that we do not discover oil.

**The Assistant Minister for Energy** (Mr. Kiunjuri): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it really in order for the hon. Member to pray for this nation not to discover oil, when he knows the suffering of our people, and especially his own constituents?

**Dr. Godana:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to tell the hon. Assistant Minister that I am convinced that if they discover oil in my constituency, where they have explored, it could mean the extinction of my community in one or two decades. So, I have no two views about this.

Another area where I find this Sessional Paper is deficient, and I think where the Ministry needs to reflect seriously on, and I wish to recall the comments which the Vice-President made, on the need for us to facilitate our population; particularly the rural poor, to get off cutting meagre woods and forests for energy.

The area where I find serious deficiency, is that of designing locally manufactured artifact equipment for the simple use of electricity at home. We are now at a stage where, even in Nairobi, you can actually have solar street lights. I went to inquire about the prices from some of those companies. The technology is there and it is simple. You instal it just once. It is a one time cost. We have a solar lamp which you can put in the sun during the day and when you take it to a dark room, it lights for six to eight hours. But things which are cheap here and cost Kshs5,000 to Kshs6,000, cost only Kshs1,000 in China. I know it because I dealt with a friend who had gone to see whether he could manufacture them there. The challenge is that some of those manufacturing processes cannot be beyond our reach. What strategies does the Ministry have to ensure that some of those simple products are used, so that we can remove the pressure on our woods, and the burden of fetching firewood on our backs like the beasts of burden? That would be a major boost for our

women in the rural communities. That is one of the reasons why I think you have identified the problem, but you have not seriously reflected on a sustainable way to come out of the problem.

We should not just think of mega projects in terms of 50 or 60 megawatts. We can think of that for the purposes of major industrial production. But I think there is a two-tier system here. We have to design a system of cheap access to power for local use by local communities. When you go to some of those developed countries like in California, you build your house now and instal solar power, which is in excess of your domestic need. You supply the excess to the local national grid so that, at the end of the month, instead of you receiving a bill for power, you receive a cheque from the local power company. That is because you supplied them with power. It is really a pity that we are still thinking in the same old fashion of how to do mega projects and dams, when we can see that our rivers are diminishing as rain patterns become more and more tricky.

That is why I think the Paper is defective and the people in the Ministry of Energy need to go back to the drawing boards. They should give us a way out on how we can cash in on cheaper access to electricity from renewable sources like solar and wind, so that we can use it for both domestic and national purposes. We should operate within our limits. I gave the example of investors who can visit Marsabit in two weeks and produce 50 to 60 megawatts for the national grid.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources** (Prof. Maathai): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Sessional Paper. I want to congratulate the Minister for bringing out this issue. It is very important to the extent of our development and how we use our energy. As we develop, we will need more energy. If we supply our people with more energy, we shall really be developing because once the communities get more energy, they become more productive. I want to relate this Ministry with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. The two Ministries ought to work together because as one tries to produce electricity, it uses natural resources, mostly water. We know that many dams that produce electricity in Kenya are situated along Tana River. Most of the water that feeds Tana River comes from Mt. Kenya Forest, Aberdare Forest and Ngong Hills.

We, therefore, know that, in order for us to produce electricity using hydro energy, we need to sustain those three catchment areas. I want to address myself to Tana River. My comments are applicable to all rivers, including the Sondu-Miriu River, where we are building a dam to produce electricity. As the previous speakers have said, we can produce a lot of electricity from many of our rivers, if only we sustain them and ensure that we have a lot of flow. We will not have the amount of water we want in those rivers unless we protect their catchment areas. The catchment areas of many of those rivers are forested with indigenous forests.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the British and other Europeans came into this country, they discovered that in order to supply timber to their timber industry, they decided to plant exotic species, especially the pine and eucalyptus, in our forested mountains. So, they cleared many acres of our indigenous forests and replaced them with trees that are foreign to those areas. They produced what we know as plantations. I want to emphasize to hon. Members that plantations are not forests. They are trees that are supposed to be clear-cut after a certain number of years. The problem with those plantations is that they completely kill the indigenous bio-diversity of both flora and fauna, found in those mountains. It is for that reason that, in time, our rivers have become much, much lower and, therefore, we are unable to produce as much electricity as we could from our hydro-electric dams.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have tried to emphasize in this House the need to conserve our indigenous forests, and the need to remove all foreign species from our forested mountains. I know that there is resistance because our people, both foresters and those in the timber industry, have become used to producing exotic species in our forested areas. But, since those plantations are clear-cut every often, there is need to engage people to re-afforest or to re-plant the

plantations. It is that need for labour to replant those plantations that gave rise to the *shamba* system, where people living close to the forests are encouraged to plant crops in the clear-cut areas. Now, in time, we all know, and I do not wish to repeat, that this system became very corrupt. So, at the moment, we have a problem where we are trying to ensure---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Order, Members! I have to interrupt the business because, as agreed, we are now going to discuss a matter of urgent national importance. So, Prof. Maathai, you still have 25 minutes.

**MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT  
UNDER STANDING ORDER NO.20**

DROUGHT/FAMINE SITUATION  
IN THE COUNTRY

**Mr. Ethuro:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House adjourns to discuss this particular Motion. I rise this afternoon in order for Parliament to appreciate the plight of many Kenyans, and to take cognisance of the fact that about 3.3 million Kenyans, as per now, are affected by famine.

**Mr. Angwenyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. According to the procedures and rules of this House, I thought it would be the relevant Minister to move that the House adjourns and then, the hon. Member can give the terms of his Motion.

**Mr. Ethuro:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is actually the correct procedure and that is why I was hesitating.

**The Assistant Minister, Office of the President** (Dr. Machage): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn in order to discuss a matter of urgent national importance as regards the food security and drought situation in this country.

**Mr. Sasura:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Are you satisfied that hon. Dr. Machage is the one to move this Motion when the substantive Minister for Special Programmes, under whose docket this issue falls, is here?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Order, all of you! A Minister has moved it and there is no problem with that. The Standing Orders define Ministers that way. I am just wondering if it has been seconded!

**Mr. Ethuro:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the nature of this Motion is that the Minister moves it and the hon. Member who asked for the adjournment is the one to second, not another Member. So, I am seconding the Motion.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, however, this Motion comes at a time when we have 3.3 million Kenyans who are affected by famine in the whole Republic. It is an important Motion. I want to start by thanking the House for agreeing to set its business aside for the day in order to address the plight of our people. We are talking about starting from Northern Kenya all the way to the Coast Province and from the Coast Province, through Tana River all the way to Border Point One in Mandera. You can walk from Border Point One in Mandera to Moyale. This problem is evident. We have seen it on the national Press, both in the print and electronic media. Just yesterday, His Excellency the President declared this famine a national disaster. It is a disaster and an emergency.

I want to thank the President. For many years, Government was always like that donkey that needed to be flogged in order to move, and one step at a time. But we are seeing a situation where the Government is actually becoming pro-active, in terms of acknowledging the existence of this problem.

I want to believe that what we are seeing as a good example by the Head of State is translating to the local levels of the chiefs and the district commissioners. I am saying this because, you know, there is an attitude in the Provincial Administration. Whenever our people are dying of hunger, their knee-jerk reaction is denials, denials and denials, to the extent that we cannot address this problem until when many lives have been lost.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking about 26 districts of the Republic that are being affected. It is no longer just a matter of the pastoralist districts of Kenya that are vulnerable by virtue of their fragile environment, but also the small-holder farmer in rural Kenya who cannot have a decent meal.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking about an issue of a basic human right, that every Kenyan is entitled to a decent living and should be able to, at least, afford a meal. When you have about 10 per cent of your population being affected by famine, the very minimum we can demonstrate is to provide a shoulder to cry on. This is what we want to do as a Parliament this particular afternoon.

We want to say the 3.3 million Kenyans include school children whose studies may be affected because they cannot be able to go to school. If they manage to get to classrooms, they will not be able to study very well because of the empty stomachs. We are talking of a national disaster with the magnitude of destroying lives and livelihoods.

If there is any objective that we want to realise from this Motion, it is to raise the profile and to highlight the plight of the famine victims wherever they are in this country. It is to rally our parliamentary support and for Kenyans to know that this Parliament is concerned; about this particular matter. We will finally hope that after the many discussions, because I know Members will be interested, and we will be invited to give an overview of what is happening in their various constituencies as far as this problem is concerned, that we will be able to get support from the Government, which has already been demonstrated.

But more importantly, this is a problem now beyond the resources that are available in our Government. This is a problem that our development partners, even when they say the most unpalatable things, they should hear our voices and work together. There is an opportunity cost for everything. When you have money being looted at a time when you are starving to death, somebody has to talk.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as a young boy growing in Turkana, I know the pain of hunger. I have gone hungry. It pains me that I am in a position of influence and power and we cannot redeem our people, 40 years after Independence.

**Hon. Members:** Shame! Shame!

**Mr. Ethuro:** It is a real shame! I am not addressing this to any particular person. I am not even addressing it to the Government, but to all of us as leaders of this Republic. It is a sad day for the nation when a life is being lost because we cannot provide food.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our policy documents are so clear that we need a strategic reserve; 3 million bags of cereals and Kshs3 million in cash. However, this afternoon, the Minister admitted that they have only 900,000 bags of maize in the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB). It means that we are not even having the strategic reserves that they have been talking about; the 3 million bags which, I think, should, actually, be increased to 10 million.

It is a sad day when our own people lose their lives for lack of food. It is a sad day when we vote about Kshs50 billion to the Office of the President. Yesterday we voted money to the Office of

the President which, in its mission statement, provides policy direction. It is also supposed to provide a secure environment and set the agenda for social and economic development for this particular country. It houses the disaster centre! It has the Arid Lands Resource Management Programme (ALRMP) where the World Bank has put a lot of money. Moreover, it has the early warning system. We have about 15 districts in the Republic where the Government has committed resources to monitor drought; where we develop indicators for an early warning system. Between the districts and the headquarters, those indicators are not being followed. We should not be reaching where we are now if reports coming in monthly from the Office of the President or the Department of Early Warning Systems were being heeded.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are talking about famine because of failure of institutions and a food policy. While we may now ask the Government, as a matter of urgency and importance, to make sure that there is food available in the affected areas, it is more important that we ensure that this problem does not recur. It is a common thing that every five years we have a famine. Surely, can we not learn from that and put a process in motion?

We need to develop varieties of crops that can grow within three months in places like the Eastern Province and even in our pastoralist areas. It is due to lack of technological development that 40 years after Independence, we are still relying on rain-fed agriculture. That the moment gods do not smile on us; the moment that we do not see those clouds, we are reduced to beggars and victims of famine and we lose our lives and our people.

I want to believe that the new Government--- I do not know whether it is new after 18 months. However, I believe that the NARC administration of the Kenyan Government - I do not want to believe that there is a NARC Government; this is the Kenya Government administered by the NARC - will put procedures in place that will develop current procedures to make sure that when this food is available--- What contributes even to lack of this food is corruption in the Provincial Administration. We find District Commissioners and officers who are still stealing relief food even when people are dying. We need to be more transparent, and we need the Government. I am happy because the NARC administration was supported by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in order to take over the Government. It has taken over the Government and I think it should continue working with NGOs in terms of distributing whatever limited resources that our Government will give to our people. We want to account for each and every grain that we can provide to see that it has gone to save a life and not to people's pockets.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want to say that in order for us to get rid of this problem, once and for all. It is known and we have early warning systems and the ALRMP. For development partners, like in the case of Turkana District where we used to have the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD), the Government should actually have a deliberate policy to ensure that each and every ASAL district has a development partner that will look at a comprehensive agenda in terms of development and emergency.

*(Applause)*

These *ad hoc* measures will not solve this problem! We need concerted efforts and an institutional framework and learning that our Government is weak at.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, just as much as we talk about e-governance, institutional memory is extremely critical in this particular issue that recurs every five years or so.

We also need to develop other crop varieties. This country is relying on maize alone. We need to develop other crops like sorghum and make our people realise that what is important is really the content. However, as long as we are relying on maize only, we are going to witness more

of these problems.

Famine is not just an issue of the new Assistant Minister, Office of the President, in charge of Special Programmes. It is not just an issue of the Office of the President. It is about all Ministries! It is about health and the purchasing power of Kenyans. Even if we cannot grow our own food, we should be able to have enough money to buy food from Trans Nzoia, for example. It is also about the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development; the opening of the Kenya Meat Commission so that our people, at the time of drought, can de-stock their livestock.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghio): I am going to propose that we speak for five minutes each. We only have one hour in-between instead of---

**Hon. Members:** Three minutes!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghio): We will have five minutes for each hon. Member!

*(Question proposed)*

**Prof. Oniang'o:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Let me, first of all, compliment Mr. Ethuro for bringing forward this Motion. I wish to support it wholeheartedly, especially after we saw what was on television. We also want to compliment the media because, apparently, the Government's early warning system is not working and without the media, we would not know what is going on in these areas.

*(Applause)*

Especially KISS 100 FM which, in fact, is collecting food and other financial resources from Kenyans. I kept feeling that Parliament should be in front of this and, therefore, as a Parliament, as we wind up this debate, we should say and tell ourselves what we are going to do in order to make sure that we are seen to be in the lead of alleviating food insecurity for the affected 3.3 million Kenyans.

I am particularly concerned about school children. This Government, over the years, had a school-feeding programme and for some reason we do not have it in place any more. Where is our kind of planning? Children cannot go to school; they are malnourished, they are not growing properly, and they are not even benefitting from the free primary education. Therefore, as a nation, we should feel ashamed of ourselves for not being able to manage the feeding of our people.

Appealing to international donors will not work! For emergency measures, yes, it might work. However, for a country which over the years knows when exactly there is going to be drought and famine; and for a country which depletes its strategic reserves when it should be 6 million bags, we should really ask ourselves: What are we doing? We have no business to in fact, condemn the British High Commissioner for saying what he said. He is a donor and we rely on donors! If we are going to rely on them to give us their taxpayers' money, we had better, in fact, listen to what they have to say! We have become beggars and beggars of food cannot be respected. As Kenyans, we should know that we are beggars. Therefore, we cannot stand up in the international arena and be respected. Therefore, I do not want to take up too much time. My colleagues want to contribute to this Motion. We need to find a long-term solution to this problem.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**Mr. Rai:** Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kumpongeza mheshimiwa Mbunge aliyewasilisha Hoja hii hapa Bungeni. Huu ni mtihani mkubwa kwa taifa hili. Tunapozungumzia

mambo haya, tunaweza kuyachukulia kuwa mzaha, lakini wananchi wanateseka. Kama mwananchi anaweza kula mizizi ya mwituni, Serikali inastahili kuchukua hatua za dharura za kupambana na njaa.

Tumeambiwa kwamba Serikali ina magunia 900,000 ya mahindi katika maghala yake ya akiba ya dharura ya kitaifa. Watu wanaoathirika ni kama milioni tatu. Hii inamaanisha kwamba tuna chakula kidogo sana. Ni lazima kutafutwe njia itakayotusaidia kwa haraka iwezekanavyo ili tupate kuwaokoa watu wetu kutokana na janga la njaa. Sheria ni lazima ifanye kazi wakati fulani. Ni jambo la kusikitisha kwamba huku watu wengine wakiteseka kwa njaa, tunafahamishwa kupitia vyombo vya habari kwamba pesa za umma zilizofujwa kupitia kashfa ya Goldenberg zinatoshwa kujenga barabara kutoka Mombasa mpaka Malaba. Wakati huu ni lazima sheria izingatiwe ili kuhakikisha kwamba fedha za umma zinatumiwa kwa njia inayofaa.

Serikali imejitolea kuwapa raia wake elimu bila malipo. Hili ni jambo lililosubiriwa kwa muda mrefu. Serikali ilikuwa imekata shauri kupambana na maadui watatu kutoka wakati wa Uhuru wa nchi hii. Tumesubiri kwa miaka 40 na hivi sasa tumeona kwamba elimu ya bure inaweza kupatikana, lakini itaathiriwa na janga la njaa ambalo limekumba nchi hii. Watoto wetu hawataweza kwenda shuleni. Watoto ambao wamezoea kulishwa shuleni, wanarudi nyumbani wakiwa na njaa. Huko nyumbani pia hawapati chakula. Taifa lenye njaa haliwezi kutegemewa kwa hali yo yote ile. Mwananchi mwenye njaa hata ukimwambia nini, siku zote atafikiria kuvunja sheria.

Ni lazima tuwe na njia mwafaka kuweza kujua kwamba maisha ya baadaye ya watu wetu yatakuwa namna gani. Tulianza kuzungumzia jambo hili la ukame kuanzia mwezi wa nne. Kufikia sasa, tuko katika hali hii na hatujui tutapata chakula wakati gani. Hili ni jambo la kusikitisha. Ni lazima tutafute njia marudufu kuweza kujua jinsi ya kuokoa maisha ya watu wetu.

Swala la usafiri pia linatuathiri kwa kiasi kikubwa. Kile chakula kidogo kinachopatikana hakiwezi kuwafikia wanaokihitaji. Hivyo, basi, wananchi huendelea kuteseka kwa njaa.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono.

**Mr. Achuka:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion of Adjournment to discuss the famine disaster that has struck our country.

As we speak, people are suffering so much, especially in Turkana District. If emergency action is not taken immediately, most families in Turkana District will perish. About two weeks ago, the media highlighted the seriousness of the famine situation in Turkana District. Most of the people there are walking skeletons. I am sure that the Government saw the video footage of starving people from Turkana District. I expected the Government to take immediate action to arrest the situation.

In the run-up to the last general election, the NARC engaged in a lot of propaganda. The party claimed to be committed to improve the welfare of Kenyans. It promised to take care of Kenyans once it formed a Government. What is happening now? People are dying and the NARC Government is reluctant to help them.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I now demand that the Government takes immediate action to save the lives of many families which are likely to die. I would like the Government to immediately mobilise all available resources and introduce a food security system. The Government should endeavour to provide water to the areas that have been affected by famine. A special Ministry should be created to deal with drought and famine.

Now that it is in power, the NARC should honour the pledges it made to Kenyans in the run-up to the last general election. We cannot tolerate what the NARC Government is doing. The

gap between the rich and poor is very wide. Therefore, a special Ministry should be created to address the perennial problem of drought and famine.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, those are the few things I wanted to tell this House and the NARC Government.

I beg to support.

*(Applause)*

**Mr. Musila:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this debate.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Ethuro for bringing this Motion and giving the House an opportunity to add its voice to the many voices that have already been stated on the issue of famine. There is famine not only in the 26 districts that have been mentioned, but perhaps all over the country. This is one of the very rare periods in the history of our country that the whole nation is in drought. In the past, some districts would have some food, which always reached those districts which did not have. So, this is a very serious situation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, although we are highlighting more on lack of food, we must also focus on shortage of water. Famine is about shortage of food and water for both human beings and livestock. Therefore, it is a very serious matter. The victims of this calamity are always the vulnerable members of our society, particularly orphans. We have so many orphans in our society, most of whom have nothing to eat.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleagues have talked about the School Feeding Programme. It is a tragedy that this programme which was funded by the World Food Programme (WFP) was going on until sometime last year, and then all of a sudden, it was withdrawn. If there is any time that we need the School Feeding Programme to be re-introduced, it is now. It is now because it is better for grown-ups to go hungry than school children. So, I do hope that the Minister for Education, Science and Technology will particularly, ensure that the School Feeding Programme is re-introduced.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think one of the problems we have with the Arid Areas Management Programme is its long-term management. We know that every five to ten years we experience this problem. Let me request that the Government takes charge and ensures that they put programmes in place which will ensure that in future, we do not continue crying of famine and particularly, irrigation projects should be introduced. I did mention when we were moving the Vote of the Office of the President that out of Kshs1.2 billion which has been allocated for Arid and Semi-Arid Areas Management Projects, a quarter of it is being used for training. This money should now be channelled to projects that will produce food for the people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, it is a matter of famine relief management. As we talk of famine now, I want to assure this House that as soon as food comes from wherever it is going to come, we must ensure that there is proper management of food distribution. Many public servants enrich themselves during the period of distribution. Some will go to the extent of stealing the food that has been distributed. So, I want to appeal to the Minister of State, Office of the President, to ensure that distribution and management of this food is done fairly and in a transparent manner, so that we will not have public officers taking advantage of this situation by exploiting the people and enriching themselves. When food comes around, I want the Minister to ensure that famine relief management is proper and people get adequate food. In the past, they have been getting one kilogramme per person, per month, which is nothing and most of the money has been used on transport, storage and pockets of public officers.

I beg to support.

**Mr. Bahari:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance. I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating hon. Ethuro for bringing this Motion. It is a very sad day because of the situation that is faced by this country. We know very well that the potentials of this country are quite different in different parts of the Republic. However, in the arid areas, the drought situation is now prolonged and it is becoming unbearable and it has already cost us so much.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was there over the weekend and I saw for myself, exactly what the situation is like in the interior. There is no grass and water and in what were considered to be slightly better areas; like around the Ewaso Nyiro, everybody is crowded there. People from all the districts and provinces are there and it creates a situation where conflict is inevitable. As we speak today, in my own constituency, there are inter-district meetings to make sure that the effects of this overcrowding are minimised in terms of conflict.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a lot more that goes with this. In the 26 districts within those areas, students have been suspended from school, particularly secondary schools, and yet their parents are facing a famine situation. I would like to demand that the Government suspends fees for those areas so that the students are able to learn. I think it is time now that the ASAL funds in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology are applied properly for the benefit of those people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope that since this House has provided funds, the usual procurement problems do not come in this particular case so that the food is quickly available to those areas. We know that in the past, only maize or beans have been provided. We would like to request that the number of cereals on the list be increased so that even cereals like rice are provided.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am trying to take advantage of my few minutes. As we know, there is a serious water problem. We would like to request that water be provided, and boreholes be repaired and be made available to our country as emergencies since they are required very urgently.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will be surprised that if you look at the Vote of the Office of the President, you will find that the contingency funds have been drastically reduced, and I wonder right from the word go, why, when we are expecting drought at this particular time. We know very well that the Arid Lands Resource Management Programme has been in place for quite sometime now, but the management aspect of drought has not been conceptualised properly up to now. I think it is important that this matter be reviewed again with a view to making it effective because, by virtue of establishing that programme, we are admitting that we can manage drought and reduce its effects drastically, and this has not been done. It is high time that this issue remains in focus and we continue to review it for the benefit of the people of this region and the country at large.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that the Office of the President has been aware that there is crop failure in the whole country but very little has been done up to now. We have not prepared ourselves. The monitoring programmes have not been applied properly. We have systems which are there but they are not effective, and it is high time that these systems are worked on, so that they do what they are supposed to do.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to join my colleagues by saying that NGOs must be given a leading role in ensuring that food distribution is carried out because there are those "hyenas" and the "gluttons" who are waiting and they want to fill their stomachs right down from the assistant chiefs and the like, and even some committees. So, it is important that the management process of delivery of this food is worked on with immediate effect, so that it reaches

the people to prevent unscrupulous fellows in terms of transport and the rest, from taking advantage. I would request that to minimise the effects or the costs, the Government can also try and re-deploy some of its lorries which, perhaps, are not required in some of the districts, so that they can get involved in the transportation like we did in the past.

I beg to support.

**Ms. Mbarire:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion. First, I would like to say that life is a human right. Life needs to be protected and life lost through hunger or an empty stomach is as dangerous as life lost through a bullet. So, when we are unable to feed our own citizens and when we see in the media Kenyans dying because of empty stomachs, then that is a disaster to me and we need to take action.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say that short-term stop-gap measures like giving relief food are not adequate. It is necessary but not sufficient. We need to look for more long-term measures to ensure that people do not continue to die because of famine.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if this Government took action today and ensured that there was water in all parts of this country, and that it irrigated North Eastern Province alone, I believe we would never have to deal with famine in this country.

*(Applause)*

I think, once and for all, we need to see the Government really concentrating on long-term measures. We need to ensure that there is water in ASAL areas, so that our people may have food at all times. They should not depend on relief food.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know, for sure, that the reason today why Israel does not rely on relief food is because her Government decided to irrigate all their land despite the fact that it is a desert. Why can we not do the same here in this country to ensure that there is food all the time for Kenyans?

I also want to talk about the way relief food is being distributed in this country. It is a pity that our people have to walk for 10 kilometres to 15 kilometres to the distribution centres of food on empty stomachs. In fact, they may never even get back to their homes with that food at all. It is sad they have to walk all that way to get just two kilogrammes of dry maize. Surely, they cannot keep walking for many kilometres to get such little food. Most of the time it is the women who go for this food. Could the Government make arrangements to get this food to the villages? Could it also be distributed equally without favour, so that everybody gets something to take home?

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

**Mr. Sambu:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion. As a short-term measure for now, those of us who come from maize-producing areas are demanding that the price of maize be increased. At the beginning of this year, the Government directed the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) to buy maize at Kshs1,010. What happened? All the maize produced last year in the north and south rift was sold to Tanzania. So, it is a pity to see our people starving when we sold all our maize to Tanzania because they offered farmers better price. Therefore, since harvesting is now going on in the south rift, especially in Kericho District and other districts, I urge the Government to buy that maize at Kshs1,800 per bag of 90 kilogrammes. After all, they will import maize from South Africa and other countries at Kshs2,000 per bag of 90 kilogrammes. So, let us save our farmers and our people. If we get maize we should, first of all, take it to the areas where people are starving.

Secondly, there is a lot of powder milk lying in the KCC plants in this country. They are

unable to sell it. Could the Government buy it through the school feeding programme to feed our children in schools? Why do we have to buy computers worth more than Kshs4 billion when our people are dying? Who needs those computers? Let us spend that money to buy powder milk and maize wherever it is available and send it to the people. We do not need to learn computers when we are dying.

I want to propose a long-term measure. We all know that Egypt is a desert country, but she can feed a population several times the Kenyan population. How can a desert feed many people and, yet, the sources of the river with which Egypt is feeding her people on are from Kenya? Why can we not use our waters to set up irrigation schemes all over the country?

Finally, the Government has banned cultivation in the forests, especially in the highlands. There are many forests which are lying idle. Therefore, the Government should allow farmers to cultivate in these forests. We should allow the shamba system in our forests. We should allow our people to grow crops as we continue to plant trees in those areas. For example, if we grew vegetables, potatoes and maize in Kinale Forest, their prices would drop. We want to see a situation whereby prices of foodstuffs immediately come down so that our people can afford.

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

**The Minister for Roads and Public Works (Mr. Raila):** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. This is a very sad time because we are talking about a national calamity. This is a disaster. That is how the President described it yesterday; it is a national disaster!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, death is a painful thing. But death through hunger is more painful. I know that it is rather you would be shot by a bullet in the head than be allowed to starve to death. During times like these both sides of the House need to come together because we are talking as Kenyans. I know that at moments like this, passions are very high. However, we have been here before. People have talked about hunger before. Kenyans have died from hunger before in the last 40 years. We need to address the immediate emergency and come up with short-term and long-term measures to deal with this problem permanently.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, yes, Egypt is a desert and it has only River Nile. The bulk of the waters of River Nile which goes through Egypt like a snake comes from eastern Africa, and most of it from Kenya. We have got Lake Victoria; the largest fresh water lake in the world. We must apply our minds to make use of that water. We also have other waters which flow into the Indian Ocean. We need to use them too.

Most times we talk about crop failure being the cause of famine, but sometimes it is not. It is because our people have come to depend so much on just one crop; maize. So, we have, for example, a maize failure in the country. I have grown two crops this year. If there will be a maize failure, I will have an abundance of millet. So, we also need to teach our people to eat and grow other foods. We need to grow, for example, potatoes and bananas. Uganda is our neighbour and she has no similar problem at the moment because many of her people eat bananas. So, let us also try to move away from over-dependence on just one cereal crop.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, extension services need to be revived and expanded. We also need to address the issue of farm inputs like fertilizers. Let us make them more affordable to the people. The Government is very committed to this issue and that is why the President said what he said yesterday. I know that the Government responder will give the Government's position, but I want to speak as someone who is very much concerned. Seeing Kenyans eating just wild fruits and wither to death in Turkana, Kinango, Kilifi, North Eastern and Eastern Provinces is painful and we, as leaders of this country, must rise to the occasion and find a solution. We, therefore, appeal for assistance.

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

**Mrs. Mwendwa:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. It pains me to speak about hunger today because since I came to this House in 1974, every time, I have spoken about hunger.

I would like to point out a short-term measure for people who are starving, for example, in Kitui District. We have some water programmes in Kitui District. So, could these people be helped to help themselves? Let them be given food for work, so that they can work towards extending their water programmes. At the moment, there is no meaningful work being done because there is absolutely nothing one can do. Since the food is not enough let us support those people who are working on their water programmes through the food-for-work programme. That way, we will be helping them now and tomorrow.

The Government should also work together. There are areas with water, but because there is no electricity the water which is supposed to serve people cannot do so. Where there is a case like this I would appeal to the Minister, in charge of famine relief, to work together with the Minister for Energy to help people get water. This is because at this time, we have no food and water. Somebody has to walk for 15 kilometres to the river and back to fetch very dirty water, if at all he or she gets it. If it is possible, the Ministry of Energy should help us with boosters so that we can get more water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the moment, most of the famine relief food given out is maize and beans. That is very good and we are grateful. But we have very young children in our communities who cannot eat maize and beans. We also have very old people whose stomachs cannot digest maize and beans. I appeal to the Ministry to supply flour and where possible, supply rice for children. But I am mainly talking about flour. Perhaps, the Ministry should supply this together with supro, which is a flour made of rich proteins so that young children and old people can have something to eat. Young children are dying of mal-nutrition. The old people are also dying because they cannot chew the food.

I would also like to appeal to the Government to resume the School Feeding Programme in the places it has been stopped. Children in those places cannot learn any more. Therefore, the Ministry should implement the School Feeding Programme in the 26 special districts as a matter of urgency because children cannot go to school.

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

**Mr. Angwenyi:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. This is a national crisis when we see our people of Kenya feeding like monkeys. Yesterday, we passed a Vote of the Office of the President. We passed an amount of almost Kshs2 billion for emergency cases. We have to talk about the six districts in this country, but I want to add 10 more districts, including Kisii Central where Kitutu Chache Constituency is located. We are facing famine for the first time. As you know, Kisiis like eating a lot of food. So, if they miss food, they will not live on the wild leaves and fruits. In fact, I take this chance to appeal to the people of Kitutu Chache Constituency to plant *wimbi*, millet, sweet and irish potatoes.

But be that as it may, why is it that we do not have our three million bags of strategic food reserve? We voted money for it last year. Why do we not have that strategic food reserve today? I believe that the Minister concerned should come here and explain to us where he took the 2.1 million bags, now that he has got only 900,000. Could the Minister immediately dispatch to Kwale and Kilifi districts, North Eastern Province, Baringo East and Turkana District the 900,000 bags that he has got in store today, so that those people can be saved, while we are applying the Kshs2 billion we voted for that Ministry and we remove, through Parliament, the amount of Kshs4 billion to Prof. Saitoti. We should use that money to import and purchase food for our people. If they do not do

that, we will scrutinise that budget during the Supplementary Estimates, and we may not pass the budget for the Ministry of Health.

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

**Mr. Poghiso:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance. I will be quick. I come from a famine affected area and when I speak, I speak from so much experience right from starving personally, to the point where I have represented starving people. The sad part of hunger in this country is that it is not natural but it is induced. It is political and until God comes down and helps our leaders in Government, we will have hunger every year. This means that your mind must be bent to care about your people. This is because we got warnings from Turkana District many months ago. We saw people starve and they were shown on television and not a single Minister from this Government visited those people. It came down to Kacheliba Constituency; we have raised the matter and not a single Minister has gone to assess the situation. Until the mind is liberated so that we think about those people, this Government will always be there, but we are becoming more callous. It is the callousness which bothers me as a citizen of this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let us not address the issue of relief food and begging. Why are we begging our own Government to feed us? I have been expelled from this House and lost my seat just for standing up for starving people. That is because the Government always uses that situation to gain mileage.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, why can the technocrats who sit to draft our budget not cut it into half, and buy food in advance? I am not a prophet, but I can tell you that as today follows yesterday and tomorrow follows today, hunger and famine will be with us here next year. We know that two thirds of our country is dry! Why are we behaving like we are learning it is a disaster now? Why are we behaving like we got information about the hunger from Cable News Network (CNN) yesterday? Why are we declaring it a disaster now?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am just getting curious because tomorrow, you will be a Minister! The following day, I will also be a Minister. Why would I sit there and be insensitive to the needs of our people? So, let me ask the new Minister in-charge: If he has other responsibilities, let him get rid of them. Let him handle the issue of hunger and famine. Let us see Mr. Karume running around this country looking for hungry people and feeding them. I would not like to take long.

Thank you.

*(Applause)*

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Kenneth):** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I stand in support of hon. Ethuro's Motion on the plight of hungry people in this country. First of all, I want to thank the President for coming out and being in the fore in highlighting the problem. I think, as leaders, the initiative that Mr. Ethuro has come up with is very important and we need to discuss it. We need to look at immediate, mid-term and long-term solutions.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have relied too often on the rainfall pattern in this country. I think that we are one of the few countries in the world that continue to rely on rainfall patterns, when we know that our Meteorological Department has never been clear. Even as we speak, we know that the month of July is supposed to be the coldest month in the country. But June happened to be colder than the July we are in.

I represent a constituency that has two divisions. Kakuzi Division is a hardship area and constantly relies on famine relief. What surprised me was that on Saturday, I went to the side that I

never thought had a problem with famine. One of the issues that arose was crop failure. You cannot get food in areas that used to have it. I, therefore, join hon. Members who think that it is not only the 26 districts that have a problem. It is problem in the whole country.

We must take deliberate moves to reward our farmers. In our efforts to eliminate famine, we must also think of rewarding our farmers, so that they can go back to the farms and grow different types of crops.

We must also have committees that involve the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Water to provide every Kenyan with water. We should provide water not only for drinking, but also for irrigation. Other speakers have given the example of Egypt, which is far much developed than Kenya. But, Sudan, which is considered poorer than Kenya, is able to use the same water in Gezira Irrigation Scheme to produce enough food for its 30 million people! Their population is the same as ours. I want to appeal to the Government and, especially, the Office of the President, Department of Special Programmes, to come up with deliberate moves not only to irrigate, but also to create dams. We are allowing too much water to flow to the Indian Ocean and Lake Victoria.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier, we must also look at the research centres we have left to degenerate over the years. These institutions used to help our farmers in terms of choosing the right crop to grow in certain areas of this country. I know that the Minister for Agriculture is not here. However, I wish that the Government could give back the research centres to the farmers.

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

**Mr. Sasura:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just want to say three things. First, this famine has not come as a surprise. In the Office of the President, there is a department responsible for the arid lands which has an early warning system. With such a system we ought to have known about this famine earlier and it should not have occurred as a surprise to us. As it has been said earlier, the situation on the ground is bad.

I want to thank the members of the fourth estate who are always on the forefront and have overtaken the Government in telling the world that we are hungry. They have always been number one and the Government behind them to admit that really the situation on the ground is bad.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, lastly, it is very shameful that we earn Kshs500,000 and our constituents are going hungry. They are dying and yet we earn a lot of money. I would like to challenge my colleagues to intervene on behalf of Kenyans. These are the people they represent. I challenge them to forfeit part of their salaries this month, say Kshs10,000 or Kshs20,000, to the kitty although it is the responsibility of the Government.

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

**Prof. Mango:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our President for highlighting the plight of those starving. Our Government has to take care of our countrymen. Year in, year out, we beg for food. It is high time we stopped that and put together a think-tank so that we can come up with a national food policy. This will enable us to take care of our countrymen. They will have enough food and also be well fed.

We have been complaining about sugar importation and other countries subsidising costs for their farmers. It is high time we did the same so that our farmers can produce a lot and even extra for exportation. If neglect our farmers and deny them seeds, ploughing equipment and fertilisers, we will not be able to produce enough food.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country has enough water. One day I said that our country needs a national water pipeline which will take water everywhere for the purpose of irrigation. That way we will have enough food and famine situations would not arise. It is a shame that Egypt exports rice to us and makes huge profits out of that while we continue to languish in famine. We need to sit down and plan on how we can grow many crops to avoid famine. I would like to support my colleagues who advanced that we need short-, medium- and long-term plans to prevent occurrence of famine. The food we have in this country currently is not enough to take care of our people. It is our responsibility to take care of people.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**Maj-Gen. Nkaiserry:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank Mr. Ethuro for bringing this Motion before the House. We know that the Government must have policies. More important, the Government must have food security policies. This situation exists because we do not have such a policy. The Government ought to have moved fast enough to save the lives of people dying of hunger. Yesterday, you saw the pictures of people dying in Turkana and Kwale. So, where is the food security policy of this Government? We have budgeted so much for roads while our people are dying. Why do we need roads when people are dying? We want to cut down the budgetary allocation for roads and use that money to buy food for our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, yesterday, you heard the President declaring that famine is a national disaster in this country. What measures are we going to put in place as a Government to counter this disaster? We want the Minister concerned to tell us, because this is a very serious situation, and it is very important. So, the Minister concerned should take note of that. Take an example of Non-Governmental-Organizations (NGOs), they are the most sensitive institutions to the needs of Kenyans when the Government is just sitting and watching. In fact, no Minister has visited--- Yesterday, my colleague told me that he went to Kwale to see the people. We did not see the Minister consoling the people who are suffering from hunger. I said before that---

**An hon. Member:** But we are---

**Maj-Gen. Nkaiserry:** No, do not talk to me, talk to yourself!

*(Laughter)*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while we consider the question of food, we must also take care of livestock as soon as the drought sets in. Because this month, drought has set in, and in my district, our livestock will die. Does the Government have a policy for restocking so as to help the community revive their livestock?

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

*(Several Members stood up in their places)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members! Order! Order, all of you! Sit down, please!

**Mr. Omingo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir---

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Omingo! Now, the Minister has to---

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

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Order, Mr. Shabaan! There is a Minister from the Office of the President who has got to respond, and we will give him 15 minutes--

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

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Order, Mr. Shabaan! You have been here too many years! You are supposed to know the rules! Relax!

Now, we will give the Minister 15 minutes, but there is a lot of interest in this Motion. So, Minister, you can do a lot of good if you can take a shorter time to reply, and, in fact, if you can donate some of your time. So that we can---

*(Loud consultations)*

Order! Order! What is wrong with hon. Members? Can you, please, be patient? Let the Chair communicate and then we can proceed!

Proceed, Minister!

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Mr. Karume): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**An hon. Member:** You should donate the minutes before you speak.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Mr. Karume): I would like to donate maybe three minutes to hon. Dr. Murungaru, and maybe two minutes to---

*(Several hon. Members stood up requesting the Minister to donate minutes to them)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Order, hon. Members! Let us be systematic. Minister, if you are going to donate, then you are only going to donate to three or so many people. You have got only 15 minutes, and you can donate six or seven minutes. But you must specify the Members you intend to donate the minutes to before you start talking. Who is the first person you want to donate to?

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Mr. Karume): Dr. Murungaru, then---

*(Several hon. Members stood)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Order, hon. Members!

Proceed, Minister!

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Mr. Karume): Three minutes to Dr. Murungaru, one minute to Mr. Ojode and Dr. Kituyi and lastly, Mr. K. Maitha.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Dr. Murungaru): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me start by thanking my colleague, the Minister of State, Office of the President, in charge of Special Programmes. The creation of the this Department within the Office of the President is testimony to the importance the Government attaches to food insecurity, among other forms of insecurities in this nation. The Department will address the problems that go with hunger in the short-term, medium-term and the long-run.

I do not want to dwell on too many points. Let me focus on one point. We recognise the need to have a long-term strategy to deal with the problem of under-development. The problem of hunger is not a question of food, health or education. It is a question of social development. The Kibaki Government has put in place a comprehensive programme to uplift those areas of this country which have been traditionally marginalised, from the colonial times, through the Kenyatta and the Moi administrations. One of the specific---

*(Loud consultations)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order, hon. Members! Please, let us hear what the Minister has to say.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Dr. Murungaru): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to tell the House that just this week, the Government established a Cabinet Committee to look into the infrastructure in this country. As we speak, there is a lot of food; potatoes and cabbages in Kinangop, Kipipiri and some places in Kieni that should be eaten by people in Coast Province instead of eating berries. Infrastructure entails roads, water, communication and energy. The Government has a plan to deliver to this country.

Finally, I would like to join my colleague, Mr. Raila, and say that this is not the time for posturing and party politics. This is the time for this country to come together and roll out a programme that will enable us, as a country, to deal with the monster of drought, poverty and under-development once and for all.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing** (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to join my colleagues in talking about famine relief.

There has been famine relief in this country for a long time. Talking and doing are two different things. We have been talking about giving famine relief food for the last 40 years and there is nothing tangible on the ground which will make us become food sufficient. I would also want to touch on the issue of farm inputs. There is nowhere you can farm using tractors and yet, they are too expensive.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Ojode!

**Mr. Sirma:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Because of the importance of this Motion, could I ask that we extend time by 30 minutes, so that we can have more time to debate the Motion?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Hon. Members, there is already an application here about extension of the time of the House, because of the interest in the Motion. It is for this House to decide whether we can have that extension for a further 30 minutes until 7.00 o'clock.

*(Question of the extension of sitting time put and agreed to)*

**The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing** (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are told that tractors are not charged VAT or they are duty free. However, the reality is to the contrary. You will find that an 80 horse-power tractor goes for over Kshs2 million, which is not realistic. We must create an environment which can provide incentives to our farmers.

The other area of concern is idle agricultural land. Anybody who owns over 100 acres of land should utilise it. If it is not utilised, we shall be forced, as the Government, to introduce tax on it. There is no way we can allow people to have large chunks of land which lie idle.

The other issue is that of floods. Last year---

**Mr. Poghisio:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The ruling of the Chair on the extension of time seems to have sent the wrong signal to my friend who is speaking. It is still time for the Minister to contribute.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): You got that right Mr. Poghisio. Mr. Minister, you are still limited to 15 minutes. If other hon. Members eat into your time, then you will

be left with very few minutes in which to reply.

**The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing** (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my last point concerns floods that we have been experiencing. We need to tap this water by constructing dams. The same dams can be used for irrigation purposes.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Mr. Karume): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank hon. Ethuro for bringing this Motion to this House. It is an important Motion. I want to thank all those who have supported it, and also those who will support it afterwards. We realised that we did not harvest enough after the short rains of the year 2003, and also after the long rains of the year 2004. We have been monitoring the drought situation, and have noted that it is deteriorating. The first case of drought was reported in north west Turkana. The drought then spread to southern Turkana, Marsabit North and parts of Coast Province. Right now, 26 Districts are affected by drought. They require food distribution to the tune of Kshs156,000 metric tonnes, which should cost US\$76 million. Non-food assistance will cost US\$32 million. The Government stocks, as of now, are as follows. The cash we are holding is Kshs1.5 billion. In this year's Budget we have an allocation of Kshs2 billion. Our maize stock now stands at 900,000 bags. As at the end of the financial year 2003/2004, we spent Kshs1.5 billion on food distribution. The cost of the assistance required is over and above our available resources. His Excellency the President made an appeal to local and international partners for support in our endeavours. The President also declared the drought that is currently ongoing, a national disaster.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with all what has been said here by the previous speakers when they said that at the moment, more than 26 districts are experiencing drought. We are aware of this, and are trying as much as we can to address the problem. I can assure this House that there will be enough food. I am planning to go around and assess the situation in these drought-affected areas, so that I can ensure that every Kenyan gets enough food. Several hon. Members have talked about the distribution of food. They have raised concern that in the past we have lost a lot of relief food, which was supposed to be distributed to *wananchi* by chiefs because they would either sell or hide it. Now, we are being assisted by some donors. We urge communities to select trustworthy people to distribute this food. Members of Parliament can also assist in selecting honest individuals to carry out this task.

The Government will try to help every area. It will not discriminate against areas which do not support it. This food is for Kenyans and will be distributed everywhere. I want to give the assurance that there will be no discrimination at all. This 3.3 million, consisting of 1.8 million adults and 1.5 million children are not the only ones we intend to assist. We have planned to distribute relief food for up to six months from now. If the drought still persists after October, then we will double the amount of relief food. We are talking about 4 million bags of relief food now. I would like to assure the House that they should not worry about this drought, because the Government has already put in place plans to cater for any future emergencies.

I agree with hon. Members when they say that we cannot keep waiting for a drought to start appealing for relief food. We must have a solution to future food shortages. We should build dams in places like Machakos, Kitui and all the dry areas. There must be a plan for the future. For example, if you go to Kinangop, you will find people giving vegetables to cows because their price is too low. Why can we not have a plan? What can we do with these vegetables? Some can be distributed to the drought-affected areas instead of wasting them. I know that a plan of this nature will succeed.

I would like to also take this opportunity to thank those hon. Members who have also contributed to this Motion.

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

**Eng. Nyamunga:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me a chance to contribute to this very important Motion. It is not the first time that we are facing a situation where some of us are dying of starvation. What is now required is a programme of how to make sure that, in future, we do not face a similar situation. We need to have, as has been said by hon. Members, a short-term arrangement where we could distribute food to the people who are starving now. We need also to have medium-term and long-term arrangements. We know very well that the weather patterns in this country do not allow us any more to rely on rains for agriculture. We know that the only way out for us now is to have an irrigation arrangement to facilitate our agricultural activities. Our country is endowed with good rainfall and a lot of land. The only thing we have not done is to plan how to use that water and also to irrigate the land that we have. It has been said before that the water that is irrigating Egypt comes from the Lake Victoria. Why do we not use that water for irrigation around the lake region, so that we can distribute food to the other marginal areas of this country?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we must now plan and have a target so that we do not subject our people to death through starvation. A country which cannot feed its people cannot be a proud one; it is a country that has misery. As I said, death through starvation is painful than death by a bullet shot through the head.

While planning for irrigation, we must also undertake afforestation programmes. I am happy that Prof. Maathai is here. However, we are not giving her enough support. She has been pushing the Green Belt Movement (GBM) for years now, but we are not helping her. We know that some of our rivers are just about getting dry because the rain catchment areas have been destroyed through misuse or over exploitation of the forests. As we tackle irrigation, we must also carry with us reforestation, so that we can address the problems that are facing these rain catchment areas.

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

**The Minister for Trade and Industry (Dr. Kituyi):** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want, first of all, to thank hon. Members of this House who have been so unanimous in their collective expression of concern, anxiety and commitment to show solidarity with the victims of this crisis we are suffering today. Like many of our colleagues coming from pastoral regions know, the phenomenon we are experiencing now is almost predictable. There is about a 10-year cycle, which is narrowing down because of certain social and ecological conditions, during which we can expect that there will be below average rains. The fact that a slight delay or reduction in the rains translates into a human crisis is not a natural phenomenon. While we have been mourning the absence of infrastructural work, and, indeed, there must be infrastructural work, we must also look at the contributing behaviour of human resource use in the increasing vulnerability of the drier districts of this country. As we continue depending on volumes, that is quantitative expansion of cultivated agriculture, we have been increasing pressure on the drier areas; areas that are best suited for livestock production, increasingly coming under crop production, alienating dry season pasture pastoralist and, therefore, translating short-term failure of rains into a crisis of famine.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to make a few specific proposals. If we are as committed as we are sounding, and this is a national crisis that crosses the borders of political divide, why can we not organise as the National Assembly of Kenya--

*(Mr. Mwenje and Mr. K. Maitha  
consulted loudly)*

**The Minister for Trade and Industry (Dr. Kituyi):** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir,

could you protect me from Mr. K. Maitha and his gang?

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Khamasi): Order, Mr. Mwenje and Mr. Maitha!

**The Minister for Trade and Industry** (Dr. Kituyi): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we are not just shedding crocodile tears and if we are determined, as the National Assembly of Kenya to collectively deal with this problem as a short-term phenomenon, could the Chair facilitate a collective effort by hon. Members of Parliament to feed the country? We collectively, as Members of the National Assembly of Kenya, should go from district to district, make our personal donations, use our mileage allowance to continue buying some food and distribute it to the victims of this crisis.

Secondly, contrary to what Maj.Gen. Nkaisserry has said, today, more than ever before, we need infrastructure. We need irrigation and roads to move on and reach the victims of this crisis. We do not need few roads as Maj.Gen Nkaisserry has said.

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

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

Thirdly, I want to thank the members of the diplomatic community, even including those who, otherwise, were getting excessive with their bellicose, saying they were ready to put aside whatever other measures they were taking and join Kenyans in dealing with this imminent crisis in the country. I hope that this must be speedily followed up with action in terms of concrete material contribution. I, particularly, want to propose that donors from outside East Africa should not send us food but should send us money to buy food from within this region where it is available. Kenya will do better in buying maize, like the early season crop in Uganda than get maize from the United States of America. Apart from subverting what would, otherwise, be export subsidy for American farmers, who will get more value for the amount of money--- For a country like Kenya which exports US \$500 million into Uganda and imports only US \$13 million, it will be a statement of solidarity even in this times of crisis for us to use the opportunity to increase what we buy out of Uganda and cement our solidarity.

*(Applause)*

Also importantly, we must collectively encourage the use of other foods and not just maize, namely sorghum, rice, cassava and bananas. We should look at how we can maximise the use of those foodstuffs which are available not only in different parts of the country, but also in different regions.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Salat:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion. I have been trying to catch your eye because I have a very important message. Early this year, my constituents also suffered from famine and we received relief food from the Government. But we thank God this time round, we would not like to see the people of Turkana District and the rest of Kenyans suffer. In three weeks time, we will be harvesting maize in Bomet District. I urge the Government to set aside some funds to buy maize from the people of that district because we have a bumper harvest this time round. I would also urge the Government to buy a bag of maize at, at least, Kshs2,000 so that we can use that money to uplift our living standards

instead of importing maize.

We should look at the food policy in this country. This country is not facing hunger for the first time. We have gone through this before and we should not go through it again. We should have a food policy and put in place early warning systems. What is this department doing? The focus of the Government is misplaced.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you wish that the images we have seen on television would never happen in any one of our constituencies. The Government has started to react to the situation now. We need to have policies that will address that problem. We should harvest water and store it. We had the *El Nino* rains. I was lucky to go to Botswana about two months ago. That country only sees rains once a year. But they have harvested water that can last them for years. We have never heard them asking for food donations. That country is a semi-desert! A country like Kenya, which receives rainfall now and then, should not, and I repeat, should not have images that we saw on television the other day.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need to focus and have policies that will address that problem once and for all. I must thank Mr. Ethuro for urging Members of this House to come together and address that issue. I would like to join my colleagues and say that besides discussing this issue in this House, we should be seen to be acting. If each hon. Member donated Kshs10,000 from this month's salary, that, in itself, will raise an automatic Kshs22 million. That money will go a long way---

**An hon. Member:** Kshs 2.2 million! Fanya hesabu yako vizuri!

**Mr. Salat:** Okay! I am very thankful! The Treasury people are here to help me with mathematics. We need to be seen to be acting and responding. We should do more than just saying that we have voted money to the Office of the President (OP). The Office of the President should do its part. We, as Parliamentarians, should do our part, so that Kenyans can know that we care.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am going to repeat again that we are harvesting in two weeks time. We look forward to the Government to buy maize from Bomet at Kshs2,000 per bag.

Thank you.

**The Assistant Minister for East African and Regional Co-operation** (Mr. J. Nyaga): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to address this very important subject, that has been so ably brought up by our friends from Turkana.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is an extremely sad day that we are talking about shortage of food and dying Kenyans. I come from a semi-arid district and, therefore, I know what I am talking about. We have serious problems! As I said the other day, there is a temptation for the Government to assume that it is only Northern Kenya and Ukambani where there are problems. There are districts like mine which have serious problems. In fact, even Central Kenya, which has traditionally been okay, has serious problems with food at the moment. That has been occasioned by high population growth rate and the small *shambas* that they have.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have talked about school feeding programmes. We would like to see it strengthened to help our children. In some places, the children are not going to school because of lack of food. We would like the day secondary schools to be assisted. There is a feeling---

**Mr. J.K. Kilonzo:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Some Members of the Government of national unity are holding a *Kamukunji*!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghiso): Order! Hon. Members, consult quietly!  
Proceed Mr. J. Nyaga!

**The Assistant Minister for East African and Regional Co-operation** (Mr. J. Nyaga): Mr.

Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our day secondary schools need help. There is a tendency to think about boarding schools only.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know there are people waiting to import food. In the past, such famine situation provided an opportunity for some people to become multi-millionaires overnight. Let us beware of such people. We should not fight over food importation. The temptation to import food now is so strong and we need to realise that the most important thing now is to avail food quickly to our people without exploiting them. In the past, people have been going to the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) to fight over contracts of bringing food to the famine-hit areas. This causes delay in the delivery of food stuffs and I hope that this time round that will not happen because if it does, our people will continue suffering.

We need to monitor closely the distribution of food. We need to ensure that the Chiefs and the food transporters who are involved in the distribution are well supervised. There have been cases where food leaves Nairobi, but it does not reach the hungry people. Just as one of my colleagues said, we need to control food distribution to ensure that the people who are suffering from famine get food. It is very tempting for transporters, supplies, chiefs and others to divert the food for their own benefit. We need churches to be involved in this exercise.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sometimes I wonder a great deal. When you read the Old Testament of the Bible, you realise that God got angry with his people and sent down famine to afflict them. We need to pray for our nation. We need to ask ourselves, "Is God angry with us?" Are we doing things wrongly as a nation? I suspect we are. All of us, both in the Government and the Opposition need to do something. It is true that God punishes nations when they annoy him by doing the wrong things. That is the end of preaching.

*(Laughter)*

There are poor people in urban areas also. We normally tend to forget urban residents and think that poor people only come from the rural areas. As we fight to improve the living standards of the poor in rural areas, let us also think of the poor in slums like Kibera and Korogocho.

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

**Mr. C. Kilonzo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this country, after 40 years of Independence, we are faced with three major problems namely: HIV/AIDS, corruption and famine. I think a time has come for our Government to have Ministries in place that handle these problems. After 40 years of Independence, in my constituency, people are still dying of drought. I am very happy that you have heard hon. Members from constituencies that are now famine-free talking only about the issue of capitalising on the price of maize at the expense of the hungry people in Ukambani and other areas.

*(Applause)*

It is in bad taste to see some hon. Members asking that the price of maize be doubled. We need to address ourselves to the problem itself.

The Budget was very disappointing. The Minister for Finance allocated Kshs1 billion for the renovation of the Income Tax Department building. The acquisition of passport equipment was allocated Kshs2.7 billion while a lot of money was also set aside to set up the forensic laboratories. When it comes to providing water in Ukambani, the Minister allocated only Kshs500,000 per constituency. Are we really serious? Whenever the Government allocates money for the provision of water, it favours the urban areas. If you peruse over the Estimate Books and see a figure of Kshs500 million or so, then, be sure that the money is for an urban area.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the time has come for us to understand that we were elected by the people and the most basic need for human beings is food. We will be failing as leaders if we do not come up with a permanent solution to this problem. We do not have canals. The one in my constituency was constructed by the colonial Government. I only wish the colonial Government had stayed longer, say, for another ten years and my constituency would be having two canals now. No other canal has been constructed since the colonial times.

*(Laughter)*

This is not a laughing matter.

**The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs** (Mr. Wetangula): It is a joke!

**Mr. C. Kilonzo:** It is not a joke and 40 years is not a short time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, looking at the outstanding debt, we are talking about over Kshs600 billion. That is a lot of money for us to still talk of drought and hunger. I am surprised that even as the Turkana people die of hunger, the Government is doing nothing. Does the grave situation have to be highlighted in Sky Television or CNN for us to realise that there is drought in the country? Our Ministers need to work together. I think they spend too much time fighting amongst themselves. Even poaching people from KANU is not going to help the NARC Government. Until we appreciate the people who elected us and address the problems afflicting them, we will be doing so little. I do not want to blame the older generation, but we feel let down by them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to continue because I will be emotional. So, with these few remarks, I beg to support.

**Mr. Kingi:** Asante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ili niweze kuongeza machache kwa Hoja iliyoko mbele yetu. Kama tulivyosema leo mchana, tulianza kuona dalili za shida tangu mwezi wa tatu, ndipo tukaleta maswali hapa na tukaandika barua kueleza kwamba kuna shida inayokuja, kwa hivyo, tujitayarisha. Wakati huo, shida ilikuwa haijakuwa mbaya sana. Lakini hivi sasa hali imekuwa mbaya sana. Nyingi ya zile picha tulizoonyeshwa hivi majuzi zinatoka sehemu ya Ganze. Kuna mzee mmoja anayeonyeshwa akila matunda ya mti wa *cactus*. Yule mzee anatoka kwetu na anaitwa Bw. Shikari, na anaishi kilomita mbili kutoka kwangu. Hali ni mbaya sana huko!

Leo mchana, tumemsikia Waziri akisema kwamba maghala yetu yana mahindi karibu gunia 900,000. Tulisema hapa mchana kwamba hakuna haja ya kuweka chakula kwenye maghala wakati watu wanakufa. Leo ni Alhamisi, napendekeza kwamba vyakula hivi viwe vimefikishwa zile sehemu za njaa kufikia Jumatatu au Jumanne. Tunao uwezo wa kufanya hivyo! Sisi tuna Jeshi letu ambalo lina magari; Jeshi la Nchi Kavu pamoja na lile la majini wana magari ya kutosha. Magari haya ni yetu, kwa nini leo tuende tukakodishe magari ya kupeleka chakula hali tunaweza kutumia nafasi hii ili tupunguze ile gharama ya kusafirisha chakula hiki. Hawa vijana wanaofanya kazi ya uanajeshi ni vijana wetu, na wengi wao huwa wanakaa muda mrefu bila ya kufanya kazi yoyote. Kwa hivyo, nina imani kuwa tukiwapa nafasi kama hii leo, hata wao pia watahukuru kwa kupewa nafasi ya kuwasaidia wakenya wenzao.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, pamoja na hiyo taabu ya njaa pia kuna taabu ya maji. Jeshi letu pia lina magari ya kubebea maji. Kwa hivyo, magari haya yanafaa yapelekwe kwenye mashule ili yaweze kuwasaidia wananchi kupata maji. Kila shule ambayo ina mapipa ya maji inafaa ipewe maji na jeshi pamoja na Wizara ya maji ili wananchi waweze kupunguza shida zao. Kuna taabu na magonjwa yanayojitokeza vijijini, na watu wetu hawana hata Kshs10 za kununua madawa! Huu ndio wakati wetu wa kuiuliza Wizara ya Afya iondoe hata malipo ya madawa kwa hawa wananchi,

kwa sababu tukiwatoza malipo ya madawa, hawataweza kulipia hayo madawa, na watakufa! Tunafaa kutumia wakati huu ili tuweze kuwasaidia wananchi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, Kenya sio nchi mbaya, inao uwezo wa kukuza vyakula. Kwa hivyo, tutumie mito yetu, kama vile mito ya Athi na Tana, vizuri na tutaweza kukuza vyakula. Hii mipango ya sehemu kame mara nyingine inanishangaza; ni miaka 15 tangu tuanze kuizungumzia mipango hii, na hakuna mabadiliko katika Taifa letu! Tupeni pesa hizi katika mawakilisho yetu ya Bunge--- Mimi nipeni Kshs1 milioni uone kama nitakuja hata siku moja kuwaombea wananchi wangu chakula! Tunao uwezo wa kuzitumia pesa hizi sisi wenyewe, na tukabadilisha Kenya hii hata kwa muda wa siku mbili au tatu tu, iwapo tutapewa nafasi hiyo. Kwa hivyo, hili ni jambo gumu na baya. Na tunaliuliza Bunge liungwe mkono na Raisi ili tuweze kufanya kazi hii ionekane kuwa inafaulu.

Asante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Naomba kuunga mkono.

**Mr. Ngoyoni:** Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Poverty and hunger are commonplace within the pastoralist areas that we take them as a normal part of life. But this time round, the situation has really gone out of hand. It has become so because, needless to state, the Government which was supposed to be taking care of its people has become like stones. We have shuttled between offices, from Harambee House to the Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC) reporting that there is danger on the ground. The Government does not listen. They pretend to be very much busy. Kenyans are dying simply because those who are entrusted with the responsibility of taking care of them do not visualise the suffering the people in the rural areas are facing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of State, Office of the President, in charge of Special Programmes has replied and because he is so impatient, he has gone away.

**The Assistant Minister, Office of President (Dr. Machage):** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Poghiso):** There is no need for a point of order. I think he knows the Ministers are here.

**Mr. Ngoyoni:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other reason why this situation has gone out of hand is simply because we are having our priorities wrong. It is saddening, although it came too little too late, for the President to appeal to the international world that there is a disaster happening in Kenya, and yet we have not put our priorities in order, particularly in the Office of the President. We have allocated Kshs117 million and Kshs40 million to Vihiga and Nandi District Headquarters respectively, which are already complete and yet Kenyans are dying from hunger. Today, this Government could stand up and say that they have the moral responsibility to talk about famine in Kenya.

As if what has been reported in the media is not enough about the Forensic Laboratory Equipment scandal, in the Vote of the Office of the President that we passed yesterday, under Head 003, Item 401, Kshs100 million has been put aside for an acquisition of New CID Headquarters (Mazingira). That money is just going to be embezzled and yet our people are dying from hunger. I want to appeal to the Government re-allocate this money immediately. I want to support Mr. Kingi, who has said that we should not wait for tomorrow because on the ground, people are dying.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing is about marketing. If we have to assist the pastoralists, we should plan for livestock off-take. Livestock is dying in large numbers and not unless we off-take them to some place, for example, the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), then we are going to lose our livelihood. If you look at the NARC Manifesto, you will find that they have said that there is an urgent need to address the problems facing the small-scale livestock producers. These include poor or lack of access to the market. I want to ask the Ministry concerned to ensure

that this time round, they take some action.

The other major problem facing us is transport. Food can be there on record, but there is no food on the ground because there is no transport. I agree with the hon. Member who has said that the Kenya Army is ours and we should use their trucks to transport famine relief.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**Mr. Kamama:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am speaking as a victim of drought and famine. As we speak, over 150,000 people in Baringo District are on the verge of starvation. If you go to Baringo East, you will find that about 50,000 people are almost dying. There are about 30,000 people who are feeding on wild fruits. The Government must do something about this. I am happy the President has declared this disaster a national calamity. I hope the Government will respond to the calamity with the speed it deserves.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other day, it was reported that the Minister for Trade and Industry wants to burn some clothes worth Kshs200 million which were exported through the Export Processing Zones (EPZ). We want those clothes to be donated to the victims of drought in the North Rift and Coast Province. I also want to convene a *kamukunji* as soon as possible and ask hon. Members to assist by giving Kshs10,000 to Kshs20,000 each, so that we can buy food for Kenyans, who are suffering from hunger. We should consider giving a balanced diet to people who are suffering from hunger. If we take maize to children who have been eating wild fruits, then, we are not going to be helping them. They need maize, beans and cooking oil. That will go a long way in improving their welfare and saving lives. When it comes to distribution of food, we should have community committees and NGOs taking a leading role in solving this problem.

My last point is that water that is flowing into the Indian Ocean from Budalangi should be diverted to Ethuros's Constituency, Wewei River, and also to Kerio Valley. This will help us solve the problem of lack of water in Turkana, Baringo and West Pokot. Budalangi people are suffering. We should help them by diverting flood water elsewhere.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

**The Minister for Tourism and Wildlife** (Mr. E. K. Maitha): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support this Motion and want to congratulate its Mover. I come from a region which is affected by famine. People have been suffering owing to the famine. However, we thank God that we are in a Government which is doing its best to alleviate this problem. As I speak now, arrangements have been made, and Coast people will be getting relief food, maybe from tomorrow onwards.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government is made up of the President and Ministers. We want Ministers and hon. Members to speak with one voice, as we are doing now, whenever there is a calamity. It is shameful that some Ministers in this Government, who are supposed to be loyal to it, are attacking their own Government and supporting foreigners. It is as if they will live in foreign countries. We are wondering why we are questioning things that we know enough about. I am wondering why young politicians and some hon. Members of Parliament--

**Mr. Archbishop Ondiek:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker. Would I be in order to ask the Minister to substantiate his allegation, that there are some Ministers in this Government who are trying to support foreigners? Could he mention their names?

**The Minister for Tourism** (Mr. E. K. Maitha): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have only two minutes to go.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghiso): Mr. K. Maitha, if you knew that you had two minutes only, then you would not have made that allegation.

**The Minister for Tourism** (Mr. E. K. Maitha): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have read today's newspapers. You must have read about those who are in support of the

Government and those who are not.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghisio): We do not rely on newspapers here. You have one minute.

**The Minister for Tourism** (Mr. E. K. Maitha): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have one minute to go. Let me withdraw that statement and go on.

**Mr. Ethuro:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Minister is introducing issues that are not relevant to this Motion. Is he in order? He should stick to the Motion.

**The Minister for Tourism** (Mr. E. K. Maitha): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have withdrawn my statement.

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghisio): Could you focus on the Motion?

**The Minister for Tourism** (Mr. E. K. Maitha): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am now focusing on hunger.

All the three Governments which have been in power in this country have not ensured food security. We are happy that this Government, through a sub-committee of the Cabinet, will come up with tangible proposals so as to ensure food security in future. While we are doing everything possible to save this country from drought, hon. Members should be willing to contribute part of their salaries to help those who are dying of hunger. With those few remarks, I beg to support.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghisio): Order, hon. Members. It is now time to interrupt the business on the Order Paper. This House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 20th July, 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 7.00 p.m