

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 16th July, 2003

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.240

UTILISATION OF NGO FUNDS

Mr. M'Mukindia asked the Minister for Home Affairs:-

- (a) whether he could inform the House how much money entered the Kenyan economy through the NGO sector in 2000; and,
- (b) whether he is satisfied, in the interest of good governance, transparency and accountability that all these funds were properly utilized.

The Assistant Minister for Home Affairs (Dr. Machage): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

- (a) Kshs29,808,821,816.88 is reported to have been released through the NGO sector in 2000.
- (b) The NGO Bureau gets audited returns from the registered NGOs. In the event that the NGO Board does not receive returns, or if the audited reports are not accurate, the NGOs concerned are struck off the register as per Section 18 of the NGO Act of 1990. There are currently 308 NGOs which are pending de-registration for non-compliance to the Act.

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kshs29,808,821,816.88 passed through the NGO sector into the Kenyan economy in one

year. By any imagination, this amount of money is mind-boggling. The second part of the Question was: "Is the Minister satisfied that, in the interest of good governance, transparency and accountability, all these funds were properly utilised?" The Assistant Minister has not answered that part of the Question.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, you skipped it! You are shy about it!

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my reply certainly shows the hon. Member that the way this money was actually spent leaves a lot to be desired. That is why we are de-registering some of the NGOs. However, the NGOs have come out with an accounting system called the "Statements of Recommended Accounting and Audit Practices (SORAAPs)" to ensure that transparency in usage of funds is observed.

Mr. Twaha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this touches on the question of corruption. There are many people who are receiving money using the NGOs as conduits. There are several Cabinet Ministers right now who used to operate NGOs. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that those Ministers, or their wives, have either resigned from those NGOs or they resign from the Cabinet? They

cannot serve two masters.

Hon. Members: Which ones?

Mr. Twaha: There are quite a few.

Hon. Members: Tell us!

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of what the hon. Member is talking about, but I will investigate.

Mr. Twaha: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to deceive the House that he is not aware, when we know that there are several Ministers operating conservation programmes? Some of them call themselves national convenors for organisations like the Green Belt Movement and they are promoting foreign ideologies like conservation which is impoverishing our people. These so-called human rights organisations are bringing dirty foreign ideologies into the country. They should either resign from the NGOs or the Government. They cannot serve both foreign masters and Kenyan people.

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I really sympathise with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member, but he is entitled to his own opinion. The Ministry however, is looking at every NGO in its own perspective. The NGOs that he has mentioned have not been shortlisted among the NGOs that do not use their funds properly.

Mr. Munya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we know the phenomena of NGOs that are called "brief case" NGOs because they do not have fixed offices, where you can go and get their services and yet they are still registered. Could he name those NGOs which he says are pending de-registration?

Mr. Speaker: Could you lay it on the Table, if it is too long?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a short statement for the hon. Member. Between 1992 and 2000, the NGO Co-ordination Board registered 1,634 NGOs, of which we have only been able to receive reports of only 516. We are doubting and are thinking of de-registering the rest, unless they comply with the Act. That is a balance of 1,118 NGOs. We believe, as we demand for these reports, we will capture gradually, updating these NGOs and their ability to practise properly as time goes. It is not possible for me to lay on the Table the names of the NGOs now because the issue was not raised in the Question. If the hon. Member so desires, I will lay it on the Table.

Mr. Wambora: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have heard that over Kshs29 billion came in for NGOs' expenditure in the year 2000. Does the Assistant Minister intend to appoint an independent external auditor to be auditing the NGOs?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, actually, what I said is just a tip of the iceberg. Looking at the report, in 1997, the money pumped into the economy was slightly over Kshs42 billion. In 1998, it was Kshs70.1 billion, while in 1999, it was Kshs70.9 billion. Of course, we all know who was in power then.

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must thank the Assistant Minister for being very open about this issue. However, it is of major interest to the country to know who the recipients of these colossal amounts of money. Could he now table the list of those people who received NGO money from 1997 to 2002?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have the list with me now, but I will table it.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! I think the question raised by Mr. M'Mukindia is valid. Kenyans would like to know who received these billions of shillings, on their behalf, and which are these 300 NGOs that the Assistant Minister is considering to deregister. In fact, the world would like to know so that, maybe, those who are guilty will not, on our behalf, receive colossal amounts of money. So, will you table both lists on Tuesday?

Mr. Munya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is misleading the House in terms of the figures he is giving us. Last year, in a seminar, the chairman of the NGO Council, Mr. Oduor, said that the NGO sector received Kshs48

billion. However, most of that money is misappropriated and it does not serve the purpose it is intended for.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Will you calm down, Mr. Munya? You know that the Assistant Minister could have been misled. Between now and Tuesday, he will, probably, get the right figure. Dr. Machage, will you table it on Tuesday?

Dr. Machage: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request to table the list next week on Thursday.

Mr. Speaker: All right! Next Question, Mr. Manoti!

Question No.368

REPAIR OF KISII-OGEMBO-KILGORIS ROAD

Mr. Manoti asked the Minister for Roads, Public Works and Housing:-

(a) whether he is aware that Kisii-Ogembo-Kilgoris Road requires some major repairs and re-carpeting; and,

(b) when the road will be repaired and re-carpeted.

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

(a) I am aware that the Kisii-Ogembo-Kilgoris Road requires repair and resealing.

(b) This road will be patched and sealed during this financial year.

Mr. Manoti: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the good answer given by the Assistant Minister, I would like to state that this is a very important road. It connects Kisii District, Trans Mara District and Nairobi Province. However, the lifespan of a tarmacked road is five years. Now that the Ministry will repair that road, could he make arrangements to have resealing units in all the districts in Kenya?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, resealing units are very expensive units to maintain and they were disbanded some years ago when all maintenance works were privatised. The Ministry has started re-establishing and equipping them. I would like to advise the hon. Member that we already have a resealing unit at Suneka which will take care of that road. We are currently trying to equip the resealing unit so that they can do the resealing and patching of the said road.

Mr. Mwanicha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, potholes are a common feature on Kenyan roads these days. The resealing units the Assistant Minister has talked about are now in place, but there are young boys resealing potholes on Kenyan roads using *murrām*. Are these part of the resealing units, or what is the Government policy on this?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member knows, as well as I do, that those young men who are resealing potholes using *murrām* and soil are not staff of the Ministry. However, the Ministry is trying to discourage those young men who are using soil to seal potholes on our roads because they are not technically qualified to repair our roads. That is why in all the areas where we are re-establishing resealing units, the hon. Members should help us to keep off those young people from the roads so that we can do a thorough technical job.

Mr. Manoti: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell us how much money has been set aside to repair that road?

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this financial year, the Ministry will spend Kshs50 million to repair the potholes on that road.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! Next Question, Mr. Gonzi Rai!

Question No.465

TARMACKING OF KWALE-KINANGO ROAD

Mr. Rai asked the Minister for Roads, Public Works and Housing:-

(a) how much has been allocated for Kwale-Kinango Road (C106); and,
(b) when this road will be tarmacked in view of the Kwale District Development Committee's (DDC) recommendation.

The Assistant Minister for Roads, Public Works and Housing (Eng. Toro): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I answer this Question, I would like to seek your indulgence because I am misreported by the *Daily Nation*. It is reported that I said that the Ministry will spend Kshs500 million to repair the Kisii-Sondu Road. I said the Ministry will spend Kshs3 million to repair that road. So, I would like the *Daily Nation* to correct that error.

Mr. Speaker: On which road was that money to be spent?

The Assistant Minister for Roads, Public Works and Housing (Eng. Toro): The Kisii-Sondu Road! I said Kshs3 million not Kshs500 million!

However, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Kshs3,500,000 has been allocated for Kwale-Kinango Road (C106) during this financial year.

(b) The Government has no immediate plans to upgrade the road to bitumen standards.

Mr. Rai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since this road is the only major road in my constituency, I would like the Assistant Minister to tell this House how much it would cost to upgrade it to bitumen standards.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I give the figure now, I will be misleading the House because no design works have been done on that road. Costs for upgrading roads to bitumen standards differ from road to road; depending on the geographical and physical structure of the road. However, since the Ministry is not at the moment thinking of upgrading this road, the issue of a cost does not arise. However, the Ministry will re-gravel the road. This section of the road which is about seven kilometres long is up to gravel standard. The Ministry has earmarked about Kshs2.5 million to be spent during this financial year to gravel that road. We will also spend another Kshs1 million for carriageway maintenance. That is a total of Kshs3.5 million for the seven-kilometre stretch.

Mr. Rai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while appreciating the concern taken by the Assistant Minister, and since the Kwale DDC prioritised this road almost 15 years ago, what reasons does the Assistant Minister have to warrant his non-immediate plans to upgrade the road to bitumen standards? This is a priority project as far as the Kinango constituents are concerned.

Eng. Toro: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that this Government, which has been in existence for about six months, is trying to carry the burden of the bad policy of the previous Government. So, I would ask the hon. Member to give the Ministry time so that it can prioritise the roads that are supposed to be upgraded to bitumen standards. Of course, all the roads in Kenya cannot be repaired within one or two years. It will take time.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Sambu!

Question No.145

TRANSFER OF NYAYO TEA ZONES
TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Mr. Sambu asked the Minister for Agriculture, as a result of the Parliamentary resolution of the 8th Public Investments Committee Report on Nyayo Tea Zones Corporation, if he could instruct the Corporation to immediately cede control of all zones to the local authorities.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Khaniri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to seek the indulgence of the House that this Question be deferred. There is some vital information that we are waiting for in order to answer the Question [**The Assistant Minister for Agriculture**] adequately. We have consulted the hon. Member and he is in agreement that we defer the Question.

Mr. Speaker: Is that okay, Mr. Sambu?

Mr. Sambu: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! The Question is deferred to Tuesday next week.

(Question deferred)

Question No.479

AFFORDABILITY OF SEED MAIZE
AND FERTILIZER

Mr. Korir asked the Minister for Agriculture, in view of the fact that seed maize and fertilizer prices have been too high for the farmers, what steps he is taking to ensure that these commodities are affordable so as to enhance food production in the country.

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

The Government has noted with concern the relatively high cost of production inputs, especially fertilizers and seeds, and has put in place measures aimed at improving the farmers' income base and their capacity to procure inputs as follows:-

- (i) Removal of duty and exempted tax on agricultural inputs.
- (ii) Stabilization of grain markets, especially maize, through procurement by the NCPB so as to enable farmers' produce to fetch better prices.
- (iii) Strengthening provision of extension services and encouraging farmers to adopt use of certified seed and other improved technologies so as to increase maize yields and their incomes.
- (iv) Revitalization of AFC to enable farmers access to affordable credit.

Mr. Korir: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this country, farmers are suffering because they toil in their farms and at the end of the year, they sell their produce particularly maize, at throw-away prices. In most cases, they sell it at Kshs200 per bag of 90 kilogrammes. Could the Assistant Minister consider fixing the price of maize at, say, Kshs1,500 per bag of 90 kilogrammes?

Mr. Khaniri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in a liberalised market, I cannot promise the hon. Member that we can fix the price of maize. But I just want to assure the House that the Ministry, through the NCPB, is offering very competitive prices; Kshs1,010 per bag for this season.

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the light of the positive reply to this Question by the Assistant Minister, would he now commit himself to ensure that any fertilizer which comes into this country is not fake? Could he also assure us that fake fertilizer which is already in the country is returned back to where it came from? Could he also promise this House that he will take the ex-farm prices of maize and other agricultural products in this country?

Mr. Khaniri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to give that undertaking. My Ministry, in collaboration with the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), will ensure that the fertilizer that comes into the country is of good quality.

Mr. M'Mukindia: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has very cleverly avoided answering one part of the question. If any fertilizer is already in this country, it ought to be taken back to where it came from. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that there is no fake fertilizers being supplied to farmers of whatever crop in this country as of now?

Mr. Khaniri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot give that assurance. But for any fertilizer that is found to be fake, we will take an appropriate action.

Mr. Boit: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that the Assistant Minister has assured us that he is going to give us quality fertilizer, I am worried about the quality of seed maize. When you visit some of the farms, including mine, you will find that maize cannot grow because the seed maize which we have

been given is fake. If you bought Hybrid 614, you would get something else. The seed maize that is sold to farmers is not of good quality. What is the Ministry doing to stop that?

Mr. Khaniri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have a team investigating fake seeds in the Kenyan market. But I would like to ask the hon. Members to encourage farmers in their various constituencies to use certified seeds from Kenya Seed Company (KSC).

Mr. Arungah: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister explain to the House what steps he is taking to advise farmers on the particular fertilizer to use? All that farmers know in this country is that there is one type of fertilizer called "DAP". We know that over-continued use of DAP damages the soil. What is the Ministry doing to advise the farmers on the type of fertilizer that is appropriate for whatever crops that they are planting?

Mr. Khaniri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are just enhancing our extension services in the field to make sure that each district has enough extension officers to advise farmers on the correct seed and fertilizer.

Mr. Manoti: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is misleading this House. We do not have agricultural extension officers in the field; they were withdrawn. How are they going to advise the farmers to use the right fertilizer?

Mr. Khaniri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member cared to listen, I said we are now in the process of ensuring that we post extension officers to each and every district to assist the farmers. They were not there, but we are now in the process of posting them to various districts.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Speaker, Sir, fertilizer in this country is costly because it is donated through the Treasury. Could the Assistant Minister ensure that any time fertilizer is donated to this country, it is done through the Ministry of Agriculture and not the Treasury? The Treasury does not know how to handle it.

Mr. Khaniri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these are some of the anomalies that were happening in the previous Government. I just want to assure him that we will address that.

Hon. Members: You were part of that other Government!

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I was just amused by the comments of the House that the Assistant Minister was part of that other Government!

Next Question, Mr. Sasura!

Question No.364

STREAMLINING OF MARSABIT
DISTRICT HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT

Mr. Speaker: This Question by Mr. Sasura is deferred.

(Question deferred)

Next Question, Twaha!

Question No.372

RE-OPENING OF FAHIM DISPENSARY

Mr. Twaha asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) if she is aware that Fahim Dispensary which was gazetted last year is closed; and,
- (b) what further action she will take to streamline the management of the hospital.

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

- (a) Yes, I am aware that Fahim Dispensary on Lamu Island is not operational.
- (b) The Ministry has planned to reopen the dispensary once the acute shortage of nurses facing the country is addressed.

Mr. Twaha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of the 4,000 graduates from the Kenya Medical Training College every year, only 1,000 get employed. That means 3,000 graduate nurses are out there and can be employed. Could the Minister instruct the Medical Officer of Health (MOH), Lamu, to utilize some of the cost-sharing funds to employ some of the unemployed nurses outside the normal Ministry procedures?

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we cannot instruct him to do so due to a number of problems in that dispensary. It is in a dilapidated state and needs to be repaired because it was a former KANU hall. It has many defects. The other problem is that it is only 300 metres away from Lamu District Hospital.

Mr. Twaha: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to mislead this House and the nation that the dispensary is in a dilapidated state, when it is new? It was only gazetted late last year! How could it be in a dilapidated state? How was it gazetted when it was dilapidated?

Mr. Speaker: Have you followed what he has said?

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information I have is that it needs to be repaired because it was a hall. It needs to be turned into a usable health facility. Since it is situated only 300 metres away from Lamu District Hospital, we would rather concentrate on the district hospital than utilize the limited funds on that particular small facility.

Mr. Twaha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we built that dispensary in order to alleviate pressure on the district hospital he is talking about. The NARC Government is politicising that small dispensary which is there to serve *wananchi*. Would it help if we removed it from the KANU office or changed the name from "Fahim" to something else?

Mr. Speaker: Are you objecting to the name?

Mr. Konchella: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue is not KANU. We have a shortage of staff and we would like to concentrate on the district hospital for now. Once the nurses are recruited, we will consider it. But first, we have to rehabilitate it, post staff and provide medicine.

Question No.112

PROVISION OF WATER TO
SUBUKIA/RONGAI RESIDENTS

Mr. Munya, on behalf of **Mr. Wamwere**, asked the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development:-

- (a) what immediate steps she is taking to ensure that the residents of Subukia and Rongai constituencies of Nakuru District, especially Engashura, Baruta, Gathiriga, Rigogo Chonjo, Kirima, Arahuka, Maili Kumi and Wanyororo are supplied with drinking water; and,
- (b) whether she could ensure that rivers in those areas are not blocked and diverted to big farms for irrigation purposes.

The Minister for Water Resources Management and Development (Ms. Karua): Mr.

Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) My Ministry is ensuring that the residents of Subukia and Rongai constituencies are supplied with drinking water as follows:-

(i) Part of Engashura area is being served by the Kokoto borehole. There are also self-help water projects namely, Mariro, Menengai Community Water Project, Mweteta and Muriundi Water Project that serve the Engashura area.

(ii) My Ministry has budgeted Kshs7.5 million for rehabilitation of water projects in Nakuru District during the 2003/2004 Financial Year. The extension of the Menengai Community Water Project, to serve a wider area of Engashura and the augmentation of the Old West Acre Water Supply, will be considered along with other project. Maili Kumi and Wanyororo (B) areas are supplied from Solai-Menengai water projects, while Wanyororo (A) area gets its supply from Kijabe and Dawani streams.

(iii) Rigogo Chonjo, Kirima and Arahuka areas have been provided with stand pipe from the Solai-Menengai pipeline. My Ministry will consider supplying those areas from the Menengai Hill tank.

(b) Mr. Speaker, Sir, first and foremost, I would like to inform the House that Kenya is a water-scarce country, a phenomenon caused by population growth, depletion of forest cover and destruction of water catchment areas. Those combined factors have negatively affected the flow regimes in most of our rivers, with the problem becoming worse during droughts.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in order to address the water scarcity problem in this country, my Ministry has commenced the implementation of the Water Act, 2002, which provides for the establishment of efficient and effective institutions with detailed water resources management strategies and water supply and sanitation strategies to ensure that the river flows reach the downstream riparian. The strategies provide for reserve water for domestic purposes that must be left to pass and reach all the users. The implementation of the Water Act, 2002, will take care of the domestic water needs and the residents of Nakuru District will benefit; along with others in similar conditions.

Mr. Munya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, part (b) of the Question has not been properly answered. It asks what the Ministry will do to ensure that water, which is blocked and diverted to big irrigation farms, and especially to Mr. Moi's farm, is reverted back to the people, so that they can have enough water for domestic use.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Questioner had cared to listen to the answer---

Mr. Moi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to mislead this House that the water has been diverted to Mr. Moi's farm?

Mr. Speaker: Order! I think it serves the House a great deal if we ask questions with impartiality. I do not think we should go personal. Proceed, Ms. Karua! **Ms. Karua:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Questioner had listened to the answer carefully, I mentioned about the implementation of the new Water Act. I have said that the Ministry will ensure that the river flow reaches the downstream riparian. We are going to prioritise water for domestic use before water for irrigation.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You cut short the statement made by the hon. Member without substantiation. Does Moi have a farm there?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Angwenyi! You are again reverting to the old habits that, every time I have dealt with an issue, you revisit it. You must desist from that. I am the Speaker and not you! Let us move on to the next Question.

Question No.321

ALLEVIATION OF WATER
SHORTAGE IN LAMU EAST

Mr. Abu asked the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development:-

(a) what urgent action she is taking to alleviate an acute water shortage in Pate, Sio, Faza, and Chundwa villages, as well as

Kizingitini Division of Lamu East, as a result of the drying up of dams; and,

(b) whether she could consider supplying the villages with water from the Mzima Springs on the mainland.

The Minister for Water Resources Management and Development (Ms. Karua): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Faza and Kizingitini divisions have no dams. They are served by ground water collection system that is locally known as djabias and wells. In order to alleviate water shortage in the villages within the two divisions, my Ministry will consider the rehabilitation of five djabias during the current financial year.

(b) Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mzima Springs currently serves Mombasa and other coastal towns with water. At present, that source is not adequate to meet the water demands for the towns. It will, therefore, not be practical to serve Lamu Island or mainland with water from Mzima springs.

(c) My Ministry has budgeted Kshs7 million for the rehabilitation of water supply projects in Lamu District during the current financial year. Rehabilitation of five djabias will be considered along with other projects, in order to alleviate water shortage in the villages of Faza and Kizingitini divisions.

Mr. Abu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy with the answer given by the Minister. But I am sure the Minister is not aware that an army base at Magogoni area gets its water supply from Choma Swamp on the mainland. Could the Minister undertake to conduct a study and get water from the sources across Pate Island?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will look into that proposal and if it is practical, we will use it to supply water to the island.

Mr. Kombe: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Lack of water in the island East of Lamu is, indeed, a big problem. Could the Minister consider using modern technology to convert sea water to fresh water, as the Kenya Army personnel based at Magogoni are doing?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, previous studies have shown that desalination will be too costly. We are revisiting the issue. We will use all the technologies available to find a cheaper way of desalinating sea water and supplying it to the residents of those areas.

Mr. Twaha: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Government spends billions of shillings every year subsidising commercial banks through payment of interest on Treasury Bills. Could the Government use that money to supply water to Kenyans?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that question should be directed to the relevant Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. A.C. Mohamed, are you not happy?

Mr. A.C. Mohamed: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy, but I have a feasibility study carried out by Andrew---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members in that corner!

(Mr. Kenneth looked at the Back Bench)

Order, Mr. Kenneth! Other hon. Members will be attentive if you look at the Chair! You are very interesting!

(Laughter)

Mr. A.C. Mohamed: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I have a feasibility study carried out by Andrew Bernard and Associates Consulting Engineers, in 1996. I would like to table this feasibility study so that the Minister can study it and realise that this project is essential for the development of the area.

Mr. Speaker: Would you like to table it?

Mr. A.C. Mohamed: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Please, table it!

*(Mr. A.C. Mohamed laid the document
on the Table)*

Very well. Ms. Karua, you can have a dialogue with the hon. Member!

Question No.360

PROVISION OF WATER TO VOI RESIDENTS

Mr. Mganga asked the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development whether she could ensure that Voi is supplied with water from Mzima Springs and further that the people of Voi benefit from the funds accruing from the sale of water tapped from the springs.

The Minister for Water Resources Management and Development (Ms. Karua): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

Voi Town is currently supplied with water from Mzima Springs through a 250-mm diameter pipe connected to Mzima Pipeline. Voi Town is served with water 24 hours a day. The funds accruing from the sale of water tapped from Mzima Springs are used for the operation and maintenance activities of the entire Mzima Water Supply. The people of Voi are, therefore, beneficiaries of the funds since they benefit from the proper maintenance of Mzima Water Supply.

Mr. Mganga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with all due respect to the Minister, the answer she has given to this House is not adequate. My Question is about the people of Voi and not Voi Town, which is a subset of Voi Constituency. When Mzima Springs Water Project was started in 1953, it was meant to supply water to Mombasa and a valve was left to supply water to Voi Constituency. A study on the possibility of practising irrigation using the waters of Mzima Springs was done and some pipes were brought in 1972, but they were later taken away. To date, 34,560 cubic metres of water from Mzima Springs flows to Mombasa per day, while Voi Town gets only 5,000 cubic metres of water per month.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mganga, ask your question!

Mr. Mganga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Minister revisit the matter and consider supplying water to Voi Constituency? Could she also ensure that water is supplied to Voi Town; 24 hours a day and not only at night?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do agree that there have been injustices in the past because residents living around sources of water were not supplied with the commodity. The Ministry is looking into these issues and will ensure that the residents who live around a water source are supplied with the commodity along with the other beneficiaries of the water. If the hon. Member looks at the current Budget, he will find that some money has been allocated to enable us begin redressing those imbalances.

Mr. Mwandawiro: Ahsante sana, Bw. Spika. Maji ya Mzima Springs ni mengi sana. Maji haya yanaweza kutumiwa katika Wilaya ya Taita-Taveta na wilaya nyingine katika Mkoa wa Pwani. Ikizingatiwa kwamba kuna mfereji wa mafuta kutoka Mji wa Mombasa hadi Miji ya Kisumu na

Eldoret, Wizara ya Maji ina mipango gani kuhakikisha kwamba wananchi wa Wilaya ya Taita-Taveta, hasa wale wa Kibushe, Varanga na sehemu nyingine za Voi kama vile Mbololo, wanapata maji ambayo huingia katika Bahari ya Hindi?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked the same question I have just answered. We are looking into ways and means of supplying water to the residents who live around water sources for our urban areas. This includes the residents of Taita-Taveta District.

Mr. Kajembe: Bw. Spika, ningependa kumfahamisha Waziri kwamba mfereji wa Mzima Springs ambao unatumwa hivi sasa hauwezi kupeleka maji ya kutosha katika miji ya Mkoa wa Pwani na vitongoji vyake. Serikali ilikuwa na mpango wa kujenga Mzima Springs Phase II. Je, Waziri anaweza kutuelezea kuhusu Mzima Springs Phase II?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that Mzima Springs Phase II is in the pipeline. We are currently negotiating with our development partners to provide us with funds and, as soon as we get the funds, we will embark on this project to increase the water supply to Mombasa and its environs, which include Taita-Taveta District.

Mr. Speaker: Are you happy, Mr. Mganga? Ask your last question!

Mr. Mganga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is excessive billing even with the little water we get in Voi Town. This is because it is only air which passes through the 250-mm diameter pipe the Minister has talked about; from morning to evening. Water flows in this pipe only at night. This is the case and yet you will find poor families getting water bills of between Kshs2,000 and Kshs3,000. Could the Minister consider regulating the billing system for water in Voi?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have actually embarked on improving water services, which include billing. This will enable water consumers to get water bills for the water they have used. This will also make the water to flow regularly, or without interruption.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

HARMONIZATION OF REGISTRATION OF PERSONS/VOTERS

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

(a) How many Kenyans were registered and issued with National Identity (ID) Cards as at December, 2002?

(b) What measures is the Minister putting in place to harmonise the registration of persons with that of voters?

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

(a) A total of 13,770,414 Kenyans were registered and issued with national ID cards as at December, 2002.

(b) There are no immediate plans to harmonise the registration of persons with that of voters.

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 13.7 million Kenyans were issued with the national ID cards, while 10 million were registered as voters last year. This means that 3.7 million Kenyans were not issued with voters cards. There are some Kenyans who have not been issued with the national ID cards even though they have attained the mandatory age of 18 years and above.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want a person who has attained the age of 18 years and above to be issued with a voter's card at the same time as he or she is being issued with an ID card.

(Applause)

So, could the Assistant Minister consult with the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) so that this process can be harmonised? When a person aged 18 years and above is being issued with an ID card, he or she should also be issued with a voter's card.

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a worthwhile proposal, but the problem is that voter-registration is voluntary.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is a product of electors. So, we must assure that majority of Kenyans have electors' cards. They cannot get that card unless they have identity cards. We are demanding that the Ministry should harmonise the---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Angwenyi! This is Question Time and not demand time!

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we urge the Government to ensure that all registered Kenyans have electors' cards. Could the Ministry harmonise the issuing of identify cards and the registration of voters?

Mr. Speaker: Is that not a repeat of what Mr. Obwocha has said?

Mr. Angwenyi: Yes, but it is important!

Mr. Speaker: Is that not a repeat, Mr. Assistant Minister?

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is only putting it in different words, but it is the same question.

Mr. Bahari: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I appreciate the answer given by the Assistant Minister, those of us who live in the northern part of this country have a historical problem where some of our families fled to Somalia during the shifta movement. A number of them have returned, but it has become extremely difficult for them to acquire national identity cards even after being vetted by the necessary machinery. Could the Assistant Minister ease that process and direct that they be issued with identify cards after being vetted by the local identity card committees?

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have no problem with persons who have requested for registration, have been properly vetted and proved to be Kenyans. The issue of registration must be taken very seriously because certain people can take advantage of it.

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the problems facing the issuance of identity cards is that they take too long to be processed. Could the Assistant Minister tell us what causes that delay?

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I presume that the delay is caused by logistical problems. But even after the identity cards are ready and sent to the stations, the owners also delay in collecting them.

Mr. Speaker: Last question, Mr. Obwocha!

Mr. Obwocha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is disappointing that the Assistant Minister is not taking up this issue seriously. Since he is in charge of the Provincial Administration, could he use them to set up a task force to give the cards to the owners? The cards are lying at the district headquarters where the offices for registration are located.

Mr. Tarus: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do not need a task force to issue the ID cards. We need to ensure that the chiefs inform the applicants that the identity cards are ready, so that they can collect them.

DEATH OF MR. STEVEN KOJA

Archbishop Ondiek: 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 Mr. Steven Onina Kojia was killed on the night of 8th May, 2003 by known assailants at Nyamseda Sub-location, North East Ugenya, and his body taken by police from

Ukwala Police Station to Siaya District Hospital and that to date, the body cannot be traced?

(b) What action has the Minister taken to have Mr. Koja's killers arrested?

(c) What further action will he take to locate the body for burial and also have those responsible for the loss of the body at Siaya Hospital apprehended?

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

(a) Yes, I am aware.

(b) Investigations into the murder were launched and six people have already recorded statements. Subsequently, a warrant of arrest was issued in respect of two suspects who have gone underground and the police are still trying to trace them.

(c) An inquiry has been opened in order to establish the person or persons who illegally took the body of Mr. Steve Koja. Appropriate action will be taken against those responsible for the loss of the body, after the completion of the inquiry. In the meantime, efforts are being made to find the body and take it to the relatives for burial.

Archbishop Ondiek: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister is aware that when somebody is murdered, the body is collected by the police and taken to the mortuary. Before the body is released to the relatives, the police must witness a post-mortem. Could the Assistant Minister tell the House whether that procedure was followed?

Prof. Kibwana: I agree with Archbishop Ondiek that, in cases of murder, the police must be present when the post-mortem is being done and when the body is being removed for burial. As an office, we have a problem with the way the police and the Medical Officer of Health, Siaya District Hospital conducted themselves in that case. The body must be signed for before it leaves the mortuary. We ask for the indulgence of the hon. Member to allow us to make further inquiries and issue a Ministerial Statement on Thursday, next week. It is very unusual for a body to miss from a mortuary without the knowledge of the police and the hospital administration.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I will do better! I will defer the Question to Thursday, next week. We do not need a Ministerial Statement to answer that! Is that okay with you, Archbishop Ondiek?

(Loud consultations)

Archbishop Ondiek: I did not hear you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! What the Assistant Minister has said is that the situation which led to your Question is strange and, therefore, would like to do further investigations and come to the House with a Ministerial Statement on Thursday. But the Chair thinks that the best course of action is to stand over the Question to Thursday, so that we can still revisit the issue through the Question rather than a Ministerial Statement. What is your reaction?

Archbishop Ondiek: I am happy with that, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Is that okay with you, Mr. Assistant Minister?

Prof. Kibwana: That is also okay with me, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: So done!

(Question deferred)

Mr. Keter, you had something to say?

POINT OF ORDER

STOPPAGE OF CARGO FLIGHTS

TO ELDORET AIRPORT

Mr. Keter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to seek a Ministerial Statement from the Minister for Transport and Communications. Yesterday, the Government issued instructions to all cargo airlines landing at Eldoret Airport to stop doing so until further notice, and redirected them to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

We would like the Minister to give the reasons why!

Mr. Speaker: Is the Minister here?

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Ligale): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will investigate and give a reply on Tuesday.

Mr. Speaker: Okay! Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW
LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 20 - Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development

The Minister for Water Resources Management and Development (Ms. Karua): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair to enable me initiate debate on the Vote of the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development.

First and foremost, I wish to point out that my Ministry was established in January, 2003, and is composed of two departments, namely, the Water Development Department and the Water Conservation, Irrigation and Land Reclamation Department. In addition, the Ministry has three parastatals, namely, the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation, the National Irrigation Board and the Kenya Water Institute. May I hasten to add that the Ministry is undergoing restructuring in order to improve service delivery.

In the water sector, as hon. Members are aware, access to adequate and reliable supply of water is a key input to poverty reduction, and an important element for social stability and economic growth. However, the increasing demand created by high population growth, coupled with decreasing financial allocations from the Exchequer as well as other investments in water supply, management and development, has led to serious deterioration of water supply infrastructure as well as depletion of the existing stock of renewable fresh water. Poor service levels, and levels of sometimes doubtful water quality are now common in most urban and rural schemes. In addition, population pressure has led to encroachment on sources of water, resulting in severe pollution of water resources.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this Government came to power, certain pledges, which are clearly spelt out in the National Rainbow Coalition manifesto, were made. One of these pledges was to facilitate improvement of access of water by Kenyans. Towards this end, the Government undertook to design a comprehensive sector development strategy with clear division of roles and partnership between the Government and stakeholders. It is envisaged that this will be achieved within the framework of the water sector reform initiative that is already being implemented. The reform initiative will result in separation of water resources management from provision of water services and development to ensure sustainable access by all.

In addition, the functions previously undertaken by the Ministry will be decentralised, so that the Ministry can remain with the role of policy formulation and co-ordination. In this connection, my Ministry will soon publish the National Water Resources Management Strategy and the National Water Services Strategy that will lead to better sector performance. Just to mention, the National Water Resources Management Strategy outlines the framework to achieve sustainable management of water resources, while the National Water Services Strategy outlines the institutional framework for guiding provision of water and sewerage services.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members may recall that the Government undertook to develop an appropriate legal framework to accommodate an enabling environment. Consequently, my Ministry has commenced operationalising of the Water Act, 2002 in order to provide the enabling legal and institutional framework necessary for implementing the proposed sector reform initiative. To trigger off the process of reform, my Ministry has established some key institutions, which include the Water Services Regulatory Board, the Nairobi Water Services Board and the Water Services Trust Fund, all of which are expected to embark on their defined roles as soon as possible. I will be inaugurating these three bodies soon. I will also establish Water Services Boards in other parts of the country in line with the legal provision.

Regarding the management of urban water and sewerage services, which has been a source of controversy between my Ministry and the Ministry of Local Government, the Ministry is implementing a policy focusing on commercialisation through establishment of autonomous public water companies. These water companies are necessary, and will take the form of public private partnerships, or maybe local authority autonomous water companies infused with professional management and expertise, most of which is locally available, to underscore efficiency in water delivery services.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been a lot of misinformation in this area. The Ministry has no immediate plans to privatise water. We are talking of commercialisation, which means maintaining and running water supply according to commercial principles to ensure that water pays for itself; it does not mean taking water services out of the reach of the ordinary person. We have not bowed down to pressure, as has been suggested, to give international companies the mandate to run water in our urban centres. It is companies wholly-owned by our local authorities that are going to do so.

In this regard, I wish to clarify that injecting professional management, or management water services on commercial principles, will not amount to selling of the pipes, dams and water sources. What the Ministry advocates is that the water revenue collected from consumers will be ring-fenced and utilised exclusively on provision of water services, including extension of distribution systems and upgrading of water facilities. Indeed, the Ministry, as I have said, has no plans to privatise water services in the country, which would involve disposal of public assets to the private sector. My Ministry assures hon. Members that no one will be denied access to clean water just because one is poor.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government's pledge to increase public investment in water resources development has been translated into reality in that this year's Budget has seen an increase over what has been previously provided. It has been estimated that an investment of about Kshs30 billion would be required for the immediate rehabilitation of the dilapidated urban and rural water schemes in order to restore their levels of service delivery to their original design capacities. An estimated additional Kshs80 billion would be required for medium extension to meet the growing demand for water services. Financial resources of such a scale, however, are not available due to current budgetary constraints.

In this regard, the limited funds available will be invested in the rehabilitation of the existing water supplies that provide immediate benefit in terms of value for money. My Ministry, therefore, intends to spend Kshs1,798,136,250 on rehabilitation of urban and rural water supplies under the Development Vote. As we embark on these major activities of rehabilitating water and sewerage

infrastructure, my Ministry recognises the need to provide the people of Kenya with adequate and good quality water at all times. This will be achieved through ensuring proper treatment, maintenance and improved management of water supply and sewerage services. My Ministry, therefore, intends to spend Kshs581,009,079 under the Recurrent Vote to meet the cost of electricity, water treatment chemicals and other operational and maintenance costs.

During the same period, my Ministry will provide the Exchequer with Kshs307,083,000 revenue from sale of water and sewerage services. In order to ensure better sector co-ordination and effective policy formulation and implementation, the Government consolidated all water-related functions in my Ministry. One of the functions brought under the Ministry is the mandate for urban water supply and sewerage. In order to discharge this mandate, my Ministry intends to spend Kshs739,500,000 under the Development Vote for rehabilitation and development of waste water treatment and drainage works.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in line with the Government policy of accelerating economic development of ASAL areas, my Ministry places great emphasis on developing sources of water supply for domestic and livestock consumption in these areas. This will be achieved through increasing the water conservation capacity of ASAL areas through rehabilitation of existing dams and water pans.

The Ministry intends to spend Kshs243,673,682 under the Development Vote on the rehabilitation of these water conservation structures in the 44 ASAL districts. Secondly, the ground water potential of ASAL areas will be exploited. Regional ground water assessment programmes will be initiated in these areas to identify areas of good ground water potential for exploitation. Currently, only 170 million cubic metres of ground water is abstracted per year out of the estimated annual ground water potential of 619 million cubic metres, representing a mere 27 per cent rate of abstraction. Towards this end, the Ministry intends to spend Kshs140 million under the Development Vote for investigation and development of ground water resources focusing on ASAL areas.

As hon. Members know, the recent flooding of the Nyando and Nzoia rivers has caused such devastation and displacement of local communities to the extent that an otherwise agriculturally productive area is now under food relief. This devastation has been occurring every year and will continue to do so, until remedial action is taken. The Government is determined to find a lasting solution to the problems that will involve; construction of flood control dykes, balancing reservoirs which can be used for irrigation, and rehabilitation of affected catchment areas. Towards this end, the Government has sought for the necessary support and resources from development partners. In the meantime, the Ministry has allocated Kshs88,800,000 under the Development Vote for the rehabilitation and construction of flood control dykes on Nyando and Nzoia rivers. The long lasting solutions will involve construction of dams for flood control and other multipurpose uses like agriculture.

As part of the Ministry's contribution to improve the agricultural production in the country, we propose to spend Kshs50 million under the Development Vote on the rehabilitation of the irrigation infrastructure of the Yatta Canal in Machakos District and Njoro Kubwa and Grogan Canals in Taita-Taveta District.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the depletion of our stock of renewable fresh water through high consumption and pollution among other reasons, has resulted in Kenya now being classified as a water scarce country by international standards. This calls for an integrated approach to the management of water resources in order to reverse the trend. In this connection, the Ministry is establishing the Water Resource Management Authority and Water Catchment Advisory Committee to manage the water resource in the long term as provided in the Water Act, 2002. Meanwhile, the Ministry proposes to spend Kshs34,300,000 under the Development Vote on rehabilitation of water resources measurements infrastructure and water quality monitoring and pollution control activities.

My Ministry continues to receive substantial support from a number of friendly development

partners towards development activities in the water sector. Their combined support this financial year amounts to Kshs1,888,718,698 and for which I wish to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and that of the Government to the development partners.

To enable the Department of Water Development to undertake the programmes I have outlined, I am requesting this House to approve a gross expenditure of Kshs3,661,197,768 in the Development Vote and Kshs1,998,814,080 gross expenditure in the Recurrent Vote.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did mention that one of the parastatals under the Ministry is the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI). The water sector absorbs a substantial number of the country's labour force particularly those in the middle and lower cadre after training at KEWI. For the last 43 years, this institute has been contributing enormously to the national economy through human resources development for the water sector. Hon. Members are aware that KEWI has now been transformed into a semi-autonomous Government agency through an Act of Parliament. The objectives of the institute shall be:-

(a) To provide directly or in collaboration with other institutions of higher learning, services in human resource development, consultancy, research and development in the water sector on commercial basis.

(b) To provide training programmes, seminars and workshops and to produce publications aimed at maintaining standards in the water and sanitation sector.

(c) They will also provide a forum for effective collaboration between the public and private sectors and other interested parties for the development of water and sanitation sector.

(d) Conduct examinations and award diploma certificates and other awards to successful candidates.

To enable the institute to train manpower for the sector, I am requesting this House to approve a gross expenditure of Kshs50,738,799 in the Recurrent Budget and an expenditure of Kshs29,015,934 in the Development Budget.

The other parastatal in my Ministry is the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation popularly known as the NWCPC. It currently manages a total of 38 water supply schemes in the country, serving a total population of four million people. NWCPC has since its inception developed various water supplies thereby increasing water production in the economy. Towards this end, the Corporation, has over the last ten years, developed an additional capacity of 110,4,480 cubic metres of water flowing per day. This has been achieved with the assistance of donors, Government of Kenya and internally-generated funds. Around 80 per cent of the urban population covered by NWCPC is served with adequate and safe drinking water while over 60 per cent are likewise served in the rural areas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is also noted that a good number of the water supplies managed by the Corporation are very old and require extensive rehabilitation to bring them to their original design and capacity. One of them being the Mzima Pipeline that I was earlier questioned about. The Corporation has also been re-structured and reformed in its operations to the extent that it is currently able to generate its own revenue to meet its operations and maintenance costs without resorting back to the Exchequer for support. Its operations which had been making losses over the years are now profitable. To enable the Corporation rehabilitate and augment its water supply, thereby expanding their coverage, I am requesting this House to approve a gross expenditure of Kshs737,641,450 in the Development Expenditure for this purpose.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, for water conservation, irrigation and land reclamation, we will embark on an incentive programme to facilitate sustainable economic and social development of the communities in rural areas of Kenya. We will create employment to generate income, increase food security and reduce poverty; focus on ASAL development and facilitate the opening up of new avenues for Government institutions; private and public sectors to participate in the activities that can develop

economies in ASAL and other less endowed rural areas; to not only increase the output on contribution to national economy, but also to increase the level of income to the rural communities.

To also process rural development programmes through community-based approaches such as participatory rural appraisal to promote self reliance in development and target the most vulnerable group. We shall also incorporate environmental issues into all development programmes. We will develop infrastructural facilities to promote economic activities, integrate gender issues into all project activities, establish Government of Kenya supported Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) Development Fund for sustainable ASAL development, reclamation of denuded land, strengthen a training centre for ASAL research on manpower development and dry land farming. To enable the Ministry undertake these activities, I am requesting this House to approve a gross expenditure of Kshs76,662,840 in the Development Budget, and Kshs161,447,000 in the Recurrent Expenditure. The National Irrigation Board, Mr. Speaker, Sir, now under my Ministry, was established by an Act of Parliament in 1966 for the sole purpose of initiating and promoting irrigation development and maintaining the existing irrigation schemes in the country. The National Irrigation Board has over the years managed the following irrigation schemes: Mwea, Perkerra, Ahero, West Kano, Bunyala and Hola. Due to budgetary and other constraints, the performance of these schemes has not been satisfactory. In this regard, my Ministry will restructure the National Irrigation Board for better service delivery and, in the subsequent years, I will request this House to allocate sufficient funds to rehabilitate West Kano, Ahero, Bunyala and Perkerra Irrigation Schemes, offer technical and logistical support to Mwea farmers for the operation and maintenance of its main and secondary infrastructure; implement the ongoing feasibility study for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Hola Irrigation Scheme, and formulation of an irrigation policy for this country. However, due to the limited financial resources now available, I am now requesting this House to approve the allocation of Kshs44,961,180 in the Recurrent Vote, and Kshs49,460,000 in the Development Vote to enable the Board to resume irrigation water supply in West Kano and repair the damage to water diversion structure for Perkerra Irrigation Scheme.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as hon. Members have observed from their copies of the Development Estimates on pages 486 to 565, my Ministry's gross expenditure during this financial year is Kshs4,524,962,058. The Appropriations-in-Aid amount to Kshs2,407,337,538, while the net expenditure is Kshs2,117,624,520. The Recurrent Estimates of expenditure on pages 672 to 792 reflect a gross expenditure of Kshs2,117,261,80. The Appropriations-in-Aid amount to Kshs314,063,000, while the net expenditure is Kshs1,803,208,080. The combined gross expenditure for both the Development and Recurrent Votes that I am seeking this House to approve is, therefore, Kshs6,642,223,138.

Before I conclude, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to remind the hon. Members that water is life. We have to have water for our daily needs. We need water for our livestock and for agricultural use. We cannot attain food security without water. We also need water for our industries. I want to remind the hon. Members that the difference between our country and the desert-like countries like Israel and Egypt is that those two countries have prioritized water. They have realized that water is a security issue. Human security, food security and economic development all depend on water. It is important as a nation to prioritize water, and I am calling on hon. Members to approve this expenditure in order to allow the Ministry to give service.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: You have not finished your time, have you?

The Minister for Water Resources Management and Development (Ms. Karua): Yes I

have, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Mr. Kimunya, do you want to second the Motion?

The Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Kimunya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to second this Motion by the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development. She is basically asking for an allocation of only a modest figure of Kshs6.6 billion.

I think of it as modest when you think of that as basically presenting Kshs200 or thereabouts per person in Kenya today, which is just about the cost of three bottles of water here in this House today. As the Minister has said, water is life and its importance cannot be emphasized.

I also wish to note the relationship between land and water, not just because water flows on land, but because there is a very close co-relation between land use and its effects on water conservation.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

In the past, we have witnessed the culture of respecting proper land use. But today, the culture of protecting our water catchment areas has been thrown away, and, indeed, we have witnessed chunks of land in forest areas and reserves being issued left, right and centre without due regard to our water catchment areas and future uses of water. We are seeing the effects of that with the recent floods that we have witnessed. We have also seen desertification, and I hope that we will now change our focus and start respecting water catchment areas. We should create new catchment areas and join the efforts of the NARC Government in reforestation of this country so that we can be guaranteed of water sources in the future.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when you talk of forest encroachment, I am particularly concerned about those who are encroaching on the forest currently in the Marmanet Area, under the guise of people being settled within the Laikipia District. The long term effects of all this will affect us, whether we are in Laikipia or Marmanet. Its effects will be seen beyond the areas where the encroachment is taking place.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have also witnessed in the past communities which are within water sources being denied water and it is taken to other places. For example, I have in mind the people of Kipipiri which is my constituency, who supply water to Nakuru through Konoike Dam, and the people of Kinangop who supply water to Nairobi from Sasumua Dam. While water is in their backyard, they have none because it has been taken elsewhere. I am so gratified by the assurances from the Minister that from now onwards, in keeping with the NARC Government's commitment of fairness to all, they will have water as they supply those far and beyond.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I believe that in the long term, we will also be tending towards creating compensatory mechanisms, so that we can ensure that, in their efforts to enhance water conservation in their areas, the communities are recognized by getting part of the water tax or cess on the water traded in towns. We will be happy if such benefits are ploughed back to the communities where water is coming from.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also glad to report that within the new administration, the Ministries of Lands and Settlement, Water Resources Management and Development and Agriculture are closely working together to ensure that there is harmony in our own policies. We are working together to be able to maximise not just on the land use, but on the food productivity and food safety to ensure that the right balance on environment is maintained.

Mr. Temporary Deputy speaker, Sir, in this respect, I wish to sound some notice to all those

who are encroaching on the riparian reserves under the cover of the land that they claim was allocated to them in the past, that it is time they vacated because the new Commission of Inquiry that was formed to look into the repossession of all illegally-allocated land will soon be catching up with them. Similarly, those who have encroached on Karura Forest and all the other protected areas that have an effect on our water catchment areas now and in the future, should give up such land so that we can let the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife go on with his efforts to re-plant those areas with trees and ensure there is water supply in the future.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to urge all hon. Members to support the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development because water is critical for us, animals and our future generations. I think by charging people Kshs200 per person per month for water, we made a good start. I hope that in future, we will have some more funds to commit into programme so that Kenyans can enjoy the resources. With the free education, the new affordable health care, enhanced security and obviously the new operating political environment that is guaranteeing better governance, Kenyans will have something to smile about now and in the future.

With those few remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Ndambuki: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. This is one of the poorest Ministries since its inception. This Ministry was created in 1974. I have gone through the Votes of various Ministries which have been passed by this Parliament, in the library, and I was surprised to note that this Ministry is the one which has been getting the least funds allocation in the Budget. If you go back to 1985, you will find that the allocation of this Ministry was only Kshs360 million. This Ministry was created with a purpose to ensure that piped water was made available at a reasonable distance to all households by the year 2000 through building dams, digging boreholes and initiating water schemes. As I speak now, which is about 29 years since the Ministry was created, this purpose has not been realised and it is purely because of under-funding of this Ministry. Even now when the Minister was moving the Vote, it is clear that the Ministry is totally relying on our development partners. Our development partners contribute Kshs1.9 billion to this Ministry. I think it is high time the Kenya Government started taking this Ministry seriously.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we know that water is one of the most important resources for human survival and so we must take this Ministry seriously. We know that there are so many types of sources of water such as underground sources, surface water and so on. A lot of hon. Members have concentrated on piped water and ignored the furrows of Yatta and about the possibility of desilting dams. We have so many rivers which traverse Kenya and which have not even been tamed. We have not tried at any moment to dam them. We need now to change our attitude and forget about this issue of piped water and start looking at those other sources of water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for example, if we were today to decide that every sub-location in this country should get a dam, that will help this country a lot. The water will be used for domestic purposes and at the same time we use it to alleviate poverty which is affecting 52 per cent of our population. We have more than 20 rivers which traverse Ukambani, but none of them has a dam built on it apart from dams which generate electricity. Ukambani is one area which suffers year in, year out, because of lack of food. If these rivers could be dammed, this situation could be reversed. Now that the NARC Government is in place and they claim to be better sweepers, we expect them to rectify this situation.

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir. The NARC Government is prepared to work. However, the hon. Member is talking about Ukambani. Where is this place he is referring to as Ukambani? Where is Ukambani? What exactly does he mean by

Ukambani?

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not even need to respond to that. He knows where it is. He has been there. He even brought some people to disturb the people of Machakos Town.

(Laughter)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is true that this area called Ukambani voted almost 99 per cent for NARC. One per cent voted for me. The NARC Government promised that they were going to provide Ukambani with water. If you look at the Development Estimates, there is nothing much being translated to those pledges of providing water to Ukambani. If you look at Makueni District, where I come from, the allocation is only Kshs4 million and another Kshs5 million is going to be used for the construction of dams. There is no reasonable dam which can be built with Kshs5 million. We built a dam last year and it cost us almost Kshs10 million. So, what has been allocated to most of the districts in this country is just a drop in the ocean. I would like to ask the Minister to really seriously look into some of the areas where people are travelling long distances in search of water more so in those ASAL areas. The Minister said that she is going to give priority to the 44 ASAL districts. The Minister did not specify how much money she was going to give to those 44 ASAL districts.

In these districts, people really travel for long distances looking for water. They leave their homes very early in the morning before cock-crow and come back midday carrying only about 20 litres of water. We are in the 21st century yet people continue trekking long distances to look for water in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I expected the Minister to address some of them problems which are now a constraint to the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development. For example, there are many problems being experienced in the development of the water sector. The shortage of funds to develop and manage water resources is a notable impediment in this sector. Sometimes communities come together to dig boreholes and dams, but they are not able to keep such projects running because of very small obstacles. We really need to address the issue of perennial shortage of funds.

The other problem is the lack of qualified personnel in the Ministry. Trained personnel in the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development are often poached by people in the private sector and paid more money. I would like to request the Minister to pay her personnel higher salaries. For example, the meter readers walk for long distances moving from house to house yet they are unable to access all the houses. The Minister should consider giving these people either motorbikes or even bicycles in some areas of the country, to enable them have an easy access to the various places where they are supposed to go and read meters.

The users of water also lack proper training on how to use the scarce water resources. The Minister should also look for a way of training communities, which have dug boreholes and dams, on how to use those facilities. In some areas you find that people have dug very expensive dams yet they allow their cattle to come and mess up the water and the dams. This poses great danger even to the walls and sometimes they are carried away by water.

The lack of proper co-ordination among stakeholders or water actors in the water sector is another problem. For example, we have read in the newspapers and heard stories about the Minister and her colleagues colliding over water resources. I think all the stakeholders need to be brought together and their roles defined so that it is known who is in charge of what. Machakos Town has six boreholes, but they are not being used! People still ferry water using ox-driven carts. When the Town Municipal Council goes to the Ministry to seek permission to be allowed to be in charge of the water

project, the Ministry, most of the times, rejects their proposals. When the Minister was moving the Vote, she assured the House that water services were going to be commercialised. I would like to see Machakos Town being allowed to use these boreholes for its own benefit. It is an underdeveloped town due to lack of water. Nobody wants to go and invest there because of lack of water.

The lack of inter-linkages among stakeholders in water-related areas poses another problem in the water sector. This is something the Minister should look into and find a way of solving the problem. As we speak, there are so many water projects which have stalled. Some of them require very small funding for them to be rehabilitated. I would like to request the Minister that, instead of starting new projects, first, he should rehabilitate the ones that have stalled because almost in every sub-location there is a stalled water project. If the Minister could rehabilitate these projects she will help the Kenyan communities a great deal. In some areas, water is very expensive and the Minister should harmonise the charges in these areas. There are so many differences between parties which have been managing the water resources in some areas of the country. Once they collect the funds, the money is misused and they never plough back the money to the management of water. They end up sharing the money instead of providing water resources. As a result people revert to the old ways of going back to the rivers to fetch water. These cases need to be reviewed. The Minister should authorise the District Water Engineers to sort out some of these problems. For example, I have a project which was financed by the community in my constituency, but somebody went out to destroy the water reservoir. Now, my people walk for long distances looking for water and sometimes go without water. Every time we try to solve this problem, we are unable to sort it out. I thank the Minister for Livestock Development for agreeing to sit down with us to try and sort out the problems which we have been facing for the last five years. In my area, students have been going to the rivers to fetch water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Yatta Furrow is another source of water. We need to dig more furrows not only in Yatta, but also in other places especially around Lake Victoria where water is not being used to the maximum. We need to dig furrows there to enable many people to access the water. The funds the Minister has allocated to some of the districts are peanuts. I have two boreholes in my constituency. One is in Mutulani and the other in Kilala, but we require more than what has been allocated to Makueni District. So, I do not know what we are going to do now that the Government of the day is discouraging *Harambees*. What are we going to do in order to distribute the water resources to reach our people? I would like to request the Minister, because the communities contributed to the sinking of these boreholes, to allocate a substantial amount of money for these two boreholes in addition to what has been allocated for Makueni District.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, concerning water revenue, the Minister said that she is going to give to the Exchequer money collected from the sale of water resources. Why should the Minister give this money to the Exchequer? This money should be ploughed back to some of the water projects! Why should we give it to the Government when already the Government is not giving out enough? The money should be directed to other projects in the country to enable our people to get enough water. I would like the Minister to give priority to some of the hospitals. Some District Hospitals, like Makueni, do not have water. Indeed, they hire people to ferry water by using donkeys. The Minister should consider giving priority to institutions like hospitals, schools and even markets where so many people meet. This is an issue that has not been addressed and we need to address it.

In the 21st Century, we are told that 74 per cent of urban residents can access safe drinking water. Only 50 per cent of Kenyans in the rural areas can access safe drinking water. This is a very small percentage of Kenyans. We need to look for ways of supplying water to our people, so that they can save time and stop trekking long distances in search of water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, water is also an element of economic development. If we construct dams along all the rivers that go through our country, people will irrigate and grow crops

which will be of economic use to them. For example, in Mwea Irrigation Scheme, people grow rice because water has been provided. If we keep on allowing rivers to drain into the Indian Ocean, we will continue talking about poverty, food shortage and all sorts of economic hardships. I know that the Government cannot meet all our needs at once. This is a Ministry which should be given priority like the other Ministries, because if we could supply water to every sub-location, our people would benefit. That will save time and encourage our people to work hard. They can irrigate and grow crops, and also keep livestock.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like the Government, in the next Budget, to consider tripling the amount of money the Minister has asked for at the moment, so that we can address the issue of lack of water in this country. We should stop relying on boreholes or even dams and should look for ways of tapping water from some of the lakes in our land. Water in Lake Victoria, as the Minister said, benefits Egyptians. It never benefits Kenyans, apart from just through fishing. Water from Lake Victoria is used in other countries more economically. The Egyptians do all sorts of farming. I do not see why we should allow our water, which mostly comes from Kenyan rivers, to be used by people in other countries. I know that there is somebody from those countries who is permanently stationed at Lake Victoria to monitor the level of the water in the lake. Once the level goes down a bit, he raises an alarm. The water is on our land, but we never bother. We live as if we have enough, when we have nothing.

As we speak, water is also a problem here in Nairobi. Sometimes, the Minister tells us that piped water in Nairobi is unsafe for drinking. The Minister should ensure that piped water in Nairobi and other towns is safe for drinking. People are spending a lot of money to buy mineral water. Many companies have invested in the water business and our people are wasting a lot of money to buy this commodity which we can get free of charge, if we took the Ministry seriously. We need to take this Ministry seriously like other Ministries, for example, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Housing, so that our people can realise that we are living in the 21st Century and are supposed to have clean drinking water.

I would like the Minister to bring to this House, a master plan of what she intends to do in the next five years, so that people will know exactly what to expect from the Ministry. The Minister should also consider assisting the communities which have started their water projects and have failed to complete them due to lack of funds. I would like to ask this Government to stop bashing other people. Every time, a person stands up to speak, he has to bash somebody. We are here to serve Kenyans and by bashing, we will not serve anybody. It is high time we stopped bashing each other and went into business. History has gone and we should forget about it.

The Budget already belongs to the NARC Government. It is no longer the last regime's Budget. It is the NARC Government's Budget. We would like to see a difference. Kenyans voted for NARC Government overwhelmingly, purely because they wanted a change. But what we are seeing is not really a change. There is no change at all. The NARC Government is going back to where we were and is going down a bit faster than the former KANU Government. So, the NARC Government should give us the change that Kenyans voted for. That is what we want. We do not want empty words. We do not want pledges. We want to see real change. That is exactly why the NARC Government was voted in. Otherwise, the former KANU Government would have been voted in, but because people wanted change, they voted for the NARC Government. I respect their voting trend, but the NARC Government is letting them down. It has started behaving the way the previous regimes behaved. I know the reason why the NARC Government is behaving the way it is behaving is because majority of my people have remained there. Please, hon. Members, it is high time you started taking things seriously.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the kind of answers we are getting to Questions here are

really not what we expected. We expected to be receiving proper answers to Questions--- I have the right to contribute and say anything. We need to take our voters seriously and the only way we can do this is by fulfilling the pledges we made. The NARC Government promised to supply water to all Kenyans. I would like to know when this will happen. You should not only make pledges, but we need to be told when clean drinking water will be supplied to all Kenyans. I would like to request the Minister to sit down with the Minister for Local Government and the Shadow Minister for Water Resources Management and Development and define where the Ministry of Local Government comes in; in water provision. If it comes only in to provide water in towns, then that should be well-defined. She should not be interrupted when she is doing her work. We would like to see the Minister doing what is supposed to be done. She should supply water to all Kenyans.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Livestock Development (Mr. Munyao): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me this chance to say a few words. I will begin by supporting my colleague, the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development. Since she took over this Ministry, she has clearly shown that it is not the Ministry which makes the Minister, but it is the Minister who makes the Ministry. This is because already, her presence has been felt.

I would like to assure the House, including the hon. Member who has just spoken, that what matters is not the amount of money allocated to a Ministry. What matters is what is done with the money allocated. The money allocated to this Ministry would have been nothing to the former KANU Government, but with the NARC Government, it will do ten times more than what was done in the last 24 years. Therefore, I congratulate the Minister and wish her all the best because I know she is doing a very difficult job, particularly of rehabilitating stalled water projects under her Ministry. There are some projects which were funded by the Government, but there is nothing to show for them on the ground. The hon. Minister will have a very difficult job of reviving them. I know she has the capability and willingness to do so.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I concur fully with the Minister that water is life. So, water means everything to us. In fact, His Excellency the President, hon. Mwai Kibaki, in his wisdom, created the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development. It is no longer a department of a Ministry as it used to be in the past. This clearly shows the importance His Excellency the President attaches to water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this country has enough water. We should plan on how best to use it. We should also think of ways of harnessing it so that it can benefit our people. There are countries where it is a problem to get a drop of water. However, it is a shame that those countries supply us with relief food because they make good use of their little water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot of water in this country flows into the Indian Ocean and Lake Victoria. Some of our neighbouring countries cannot allow us to use the waters of Lake Victoria because of some old agreements signed by the colonial Government. Kenya was not party to those agreements. Since nobody claims water flowing into the Indian Ocean, we can block it to benefit our people. If we block Nzoia River, we will be taken to an international court because of those agreements which were signed by the colonial Government. I am particularly talking about a few rivers which traverse the hinterland of North Eastern Province, Eastern Province and Central Province. For example, we have Tana River, Athi River, Thwake River, Kaiti River and Gwani River, among others. During the rainy seasons, all the water from these rivers flows into the Indian Ocean. It goes to waste. I was once quoted in this House saying that if the Indian Ocean was a firm or company, Ukambani would be the biggest shareholder because our rivers flow into it. Therefore, I request the Minister to come up with a policy to construct dams, especially on Athi River, Thwake River and Tana River. We have friendly countries which can assist us with the equipment and technology required to construct dams along those rivers. We should block those rivers before they

flow into the Indian Ocean so that we raise the water-table. In the event of drilling boreholes, it will be easier to get water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know the Minister has the will to do so. It is important to do so, particularly now when we are looking into ways of improving agricultural production and livestock development in this country. If we harness water we will be able to grow cotton in North Eastern Province. Recently, I toured Sudan and I was shocked to see the amount of cotton and sugar-cane grown there. Their sugar-cane matures faster than ours, and it grows up to 14 ratoons.

Sugar-cane in Western and Nyanza Provinces grows only to a maximum of about 2 or 3 ratoons and it matures after 24 months. If we grow sugar-cane under irrigation, it will mature faster than it does today. It might even mature within a period of 12 months. It is important for us to consider starting up irrigation schemes in this country.

We have talked about water dams. I concur with the hon. Member who spoke before me that Kshs1 million or Kshs2 million will be enough to construct a dam. However, in the previous regime, Kshs5 million was not enough to construct a dam. There were bottomless pockets where that money used to go. The NARC Government has got only one clean pocket. I can assure you that amount of money will be enough to construct a dam. We have been in power for few months and we have done a lot. There is no reason why we should not continue in this way---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I need your serious defence because the truth hurts. As you can see, some hon. Members are getting jittery about what I am saying. They know where the said pockets were. The NARC Government has got only one clean pocket. It does not have the side pockets!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order! Hon. Members, consult in low tones!

The Minister for Livestock Development (Mr. Munyao): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need to construct many dams in this country. In any case, a Motion was passed in this House calling upon the Government to construct two dams in every location or constituency. If we do so, we will lessen the burden on the pastoralist farmers. In North Eastern Province, we need a lot of water for livestock farming. In fact, chicken need more water than goats. So, if we have to develop some areas in this country, we must construct dams.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to appeal to the Minister to try and revive a few of the stalled water projects under her Ministry. For example, she could think of reviving Tawa Market Water Project and Kisan dam in Kisau so that it can provide water to people and their livestock. If the Minister could provide us with a few pipes, that water will benefit many people. Monuma dam needs to be desilted. If it is desilted, it will provide water to many people. Finally, Kalawa bore hole also requires distribution pipes.

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

Mr. Wario: Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, asante sana kwa kunipa fursa hii.

Kwanza kabisa, ninafikiri kuwa ukosefu wa maji ndio umesababisha baadhi ya Mawaziri wa Serikali ya NARC kuleta sukari nchini kutoka ng'ambo. Tunapozungumza leo, kuna tani 27,000 za sukari ambazo zimefika Mombasa. Je, ni KANU iliyoleta sukari hiyo? Inaonekana kuna ukosefu wa maji, na ndiyo sababu wenzetu hawa wameshindwa kupanda sukari. Ukosefu huo umewabidi kuleta sukari kutoka ng'ambo na kudhalilisha wakulima wa sukari katika nchi ya Kenya. Utakapowauliza swali kuhusu uletaji wa sukari, watakuambia eti ni Waheshimiwa wa KANU wanaofanya hivyo. KANU sio suluhisho. Nyinyi ndio Serikali. Mmepewa wajibu na watu wa Kenya. Simameni wima na mtekeleze wajibu wenu. Wakati wa kuhanyahanya na kukashifu KANU umekwisha.

Nikizungumzia Hoja ya leo, nitaurudia ule msemu unaosema "maji ni uhai." Ni kweli kwamba maji ni uhai kwa sababu hakuna taifa linaloweza kujigamba kujimudu kiuchumi, kijamii, na kisiasa, bila kutoa maji kwa wananchi. Angalieni idadi ya umaskini katika nchi ya Kenya? Angalieni kiasi cha ardhi ambacho kimekaa bure bila kuzalisha chochote katika nchi ya Kenya. Iwapo tungekuwa na maji ya kutosha, sehemu ambayo leo yaitwa sehemu kame ingekuwa sehemu ambayo ingetegemewa na nchi hii, kwa utoaji wa chakula. Ukosefu wa maji umesababisha hali katika sehemu kame kuwa vile ilivyo.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ningependa kuzungumzia umuhimu wa mto. Leo mto ni chombo kinachomilikiwa na watu fulani. Ninatoka katika sehemu ambayo zaidi ya watu 500 waliuawa kwa sababu ya maji. Katika hali kama hii, kuna sheria iliyotungwa ya Riparian Reserve ambayo haitekelezwi vilivyo katika sehemu fulani za nchi hii. Sheria hii inatekelezwa kwa kupendelea. Ndiposa imefanya watu fulani kujigamba eti mto ni mali yao. Iwapo mto hautakuwa raslimai ya taifa, basi jamii fulani itazidi kudhalilishwa vile ilivyodhalilisha zamani na inapodhalilishwa sasa.

Wakenya wengi wanaishi katika hali ya tahayuri kwa sababu kule juu mtoni kuna mradi unaokuza stima. Wenye mradi huu hufungulia maji wakipenda, na hutupunguzia maji wakipenda. Kufunguliwa maji haya huathiri chini ya mto. Mashamba mengi yaliathiriwa kwa kufunguliwa maji na kutojali maslahi ya watu wanaoishi chini ya mto. Watu wamekufa, mashamba yameathiriwa na mimea pia. Watu wanaoishi upande wa juu wa mto wanauwa watu wakitaka, na wanakuwacha hai wakitaka. Ndiposa ningependa kuzungumuza na Waziri anayehusika ili tuwe na sera mwafaka, kuhusu ufunguzi wa maji kutoka kwa bwawa ambayo inatumiwa kutoa nguvu za umeme. Ikiachiliwa vile ilivyo, itakuwa hatari kubwa na itazidi kudhalilisha watu.

Ingawa ninafuraha vile Waziri alivyozungumzia Bajeti, kuna hoja ya uvunaji wa maji ya mvua. Haya maji ni mengi iwapo kungekuwa na mbinu ya kuyavuna. Maji haya yangekuwa na manufaa kushinda maji ya mto kwa sababu maji ya mto ni maji ambayo tunapimiwa. Wakitaka watu fulani, tutakuwa na maji ya kunywa na kama hawataki, basi watatukataza maji hayo. Lakini, maji ya mvua yaweza kuvunwa mvua ikinyesha katika sehemu yetu badala ya kuenda baharini, halafu itumike kwa miradi ambayo itanufaisha Wakenya. Bila shaka, maisha ya watu wa sehemu hiyo yataboreka zaidi.

Kuna kuboresha karakana ya miradi ya kunyunyizia maji mashamba. Waziri alivyozungumzia miradi katika nchi ya Kenya, nimeshtuka kwa sababu sehemu ya Bura ina mradi mkubwa ambao haukutajwa. Nimeingiwa na hofu kwa sababu watu wengi ambao ninawaakilisha hutegemea mradi huo kujimudu maisha yao ya kila siku. Leo, miradi yote inayonyunyizia mashamba maji imetajwa. Nasikitika kuwa Bura haikutajwa. Sasa mimi nina wasiwasi. Je mradi wa Bura uko katika hesabu au haupo kwa sababu watu wengi wangu huutegemea, na asilimia ya zao la pamba nchini hii ilikuwa inatoka shamba la Bura? Iwapo shamba hilo halitafufuliwa, wakulima wa sehemu hiyo hawatawezesha kuendelea na miradi yao. Wakulima hawa ni watu walioletwa kutoka kote nchini na leo wamewachwa bila chochote cha kutegemea katika maisha yao. Ningehimiza Serikali ya NARC iweke miradi ya kilimo ya Bura katika mipango yao, ili watu wa sehemu hiyo wawe na kitu cha kutegemea katika maisha yao.

Ningependa kumpongeza Waziri wa Maji kwa sababu yutofauti na wale Mawaziri waliomtangulia. Wengi walituwacha katika mikono ya wafadhili, lakini Waziri ametenga zile pesa kidogo amepata ambazo ni Kshs243 milioni akasema zitatumika katika sehemu kame. Maneno aliyozungumza Rais wa nchi hii ya kuboresha hali ya maisha ya watu katika sehemu za ukame itakuwa ukweli ikiwa Mawaziri wote watatenga pesa makusudi, ili kuboresha hali ya maisha ya watu wa sehemu kame. Mungu ambariki Rais kwa sababu ni wachache ambao wanajali masilahi ya watu wanaotoka sehemu kame za nchi hii. Nikielekea kumaliza, ningesema kuwa maji chini ya ardhi ni muhimu katika sehemu ninayowakilisha. Kuna sehemu za miji kama Charidende, Hirmani, Bangale, na Boka, ambazo ziko zaidi ya kilomita 100 kutoka kwa mto. Wakaazi wa sehemu hizo hawana tegemeo lolote la kupata maji, yawe masafi au machafu. Kama tu watu hawa wangepewa maji chini

ya ardhi ili waweze kujimudu na pia mifugo yao. Sitaweza kamwe kupinga Hoja hii kwa sababu mimi ndiye nitaathirika kuliko mtu yeyote hapa nikiipinga.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono Hoja hii.

Mr. ole Ntimama: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

First of all, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister for Water Resources Management and Development for the way she presented her Vote with eloquence, clarity and a lot of transparency.

Pastoralists are people who require water more than any other group of people in this country.

The survival of the pastoralists, their livestock, and their economy is thoroughly dependent on water. Without water then, there would be no pastoralists. In fact, if the problem of water in the pastoralist areas is not addressed, then that economy which is also very important in this country will be lost. I am told by the reserchers that if we had developed livestock and livestock products we would probably be having a foreign exchange earner that would rival tea and coffee. This is very important indeed. It looks like pastoralists have been forgotten and that sector of the economy has not been addressed properly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I tend to hold the same sentiments with Mr. Ndambuki who is the Shadow Minister for Water Resources Management and Development. It is true that some of us have been in this House for a long time and know that this Ministry has never really attracted the allocation of good amounts of money. It is very unfortunate for this to happen especially today when the NARC Government is in power because we want to make a difference and show the people as Mr. Munyao said, that the NARC Government is different from the last KANU Government. If there is no money, then the Minister cannot really perform. It is very embarrassing when you have an energetic and hardworking Minister who wants to make a difference and she does not have the tools to do her work. Give her the tools and she will deliver. If you do not give her the tools, then we will sit here screaming and shouting. However, I do not agree with Mr. Munyao when he said that money is not important. Money is very important. The question of providing water in this country does not compare with the fishes and bread that were given by Jesus to thousands. You need the money because there are no miracles here.

The Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development are all interrelated. If we are not careful, we will probably not have water in a few years to come because we have destroyed our environment and sources of water with impunity and arrogance, but nothing is happening. The Mau Forest is supposed to be the source of all the rivers that drain into Lake Victoria. The Mara and Sondu Miriu are good examples. You can mention quite a number of other rivers that drain their waters there. The Mau Forest is now being continually destroyed, even as we sit here. The Government is not doing anything about this. Charcoal burning and logging are taking place and we come and talk about water here. Where will we get water if the whole water catchment system is destroyed? We will probably talk about irrigation when we come to the Ministry of Agriculture, but where will we get the water for irrigation if the sources have been burned and destroyed?

Narok Town is an old colonial town and the water system there was developed and constructed in the early 1940s when the population was very small. At that time, there was hardly anybody in that town except the civil servants, the White men who were ruling us then, their *askaris*, horses and mules. Today, the population of Narok has increased a hundredfold. We have schools concentrated there and many civil servants. We have ordinary *wananchi* there, developing their economy in the little town, building it and doing business but the water is just not there. All the people go to the river to get water. You can imagine what problems there could be by just drawing water from the river because that water is not enough any more and nothing has been done on that water system for a whole century. Something must be done about this problem.

We have a very important water source very close to Narok Town in a place called Ilmashariani. It is a very interesting name because it is derived from the name Macharia. I really do not know the legend, but we have got the Ilmashariani Water Project where the people themselves have developed the water system there. It is not a river. It is a big stream coming from underground and bubbling up, probably coming from the Mau Forest. I took the former Minister for Water, Mr. Ngeny down there and he saw it. I presented my own case to him, but nothing happened. I want to ask the hon. Minister that if she can ever get a chance to put in her programme, she should visit Narok and see this Ilmashariani Water Project because it does not require a lot of money. It just requires a pump and electricity - we have got a power line passing right on top of that place - and then all the Narok water problems will have been solved. I am sure that some of the Minister's officers know about that water system, although it was very difficult to do anything then because most of these things were just taken for granted. The truth of the matter is that we were just some groups in the periphery; that is, people who did not matter much. We were regarded as people on the borders of society who can be told: "After all, they can wait." We cannot wait any more. We need to get into the mainstream of the development of this country and provision of water is the most important way to develop people, including other things like roads and so forth.

We no longer want token or minimal development. We want something which is properly planned. Even if it is only that water project that the Minister will do in Narok, it will help the people of Narok and we will say: "We have been assisted very much by our own NARC Government". As pastoralists, we need dams. I am sure the Minister has gone to South Africa. If she has not gone to South Africa, she has flown over the Veld where they have dams and pans all over. Boreholes are okay, but if you give the pastoralists the dams, then they will be home and dry because they can drink that water along with their livestock and wildlife. Sometimes we do not mind even if they put a little urine in it because it is medicinal. We need to see change and development in the form of more dams and pans being constructed.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Rotino: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion. This is one of the most important Ministries and some of us who come from those dry areas should be given time to contribute because we are beneficiaries of the problem of that Ministry. I did move a Motion here which was approved by the Ministry. The Motion was to the effect that at least dams and boreholes be constructed in every constituency, especially in the ASAL areas. Following that Motion, even the Minister sent her Assistant Minister to visit West Pokot and he did see what problems we have. I want to thank the Minister for that. We all know that water is life. Without it, there is nothing we can do. I want to encourage the Minister and her officers to visit those areas and see for themselves how our people are suffering. They should not only just sit in their offices and wait for reports from those areas. They should find time to visit those districts and see how women and children suffer. Most of our young girls do not even go to school because they travel long distances to fetch water. So, if water is availed to these people, they will be able to allow their children to go to school.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about the Water Apportionment Board (WAB). I would urge the Minister to appoint members to this board from areas where people are suffering. This will ensure that we do not have a board that only represents a group of people from a specific area. This board is very important.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry has been allocated only Kshs6.6 billion. This is very little money. I hope, in the Supplementary Estimates, the Ministry will be given more money so that they can provide water. Some of us come from cattle-rustling prone areas. One of the reasons why people fight is lack of water. We have a number of boreholes. The Colonial Government did a wonderful job in my constituency. They dug many boreholes and constructed

dams in many of these areas. However, those dams have outlived their usefulness. They need to be rehabilitated because of siltation. They have dried up. There should be a policy within the Ministry to address the issue of boreholes. For example, in Sigor constituency, there is a location with 10 service dams, but it is a pity that all of them have dried up. When the Ministry rehabilitate, some of those dams, they do not carry out a research to find out what the community requires. They just decide to construct a service dam without consulting the local community. The community keeps on moving in search of water and pastures. I would urge the Ministry, when rehabilitating these dams, to consider the community's need. Otherwise, if the Ministry officers go there and just decide to construct a dam anywhere, it will not benefit the community.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need to rehabilitate and maintain existing projects in my constituency. During long rains in April, the water project at Sigor Health Centre was destroyed. From that health centre to the nearest river is about five kilometres. We only require about Kshs250,000 to rehabilitate the water project at Sigor Health Centre. I plead with the Ministry to rehabilitate and maintain those projects in my constituency. This is because some of those projects were built when the population of those trading centres was small. The existing water facilities cannot suffice the needs of the people because their population has increased. For example, in Kapenguria Town, the District Commissioner (DC) does not have water. There are two water boosters that were donated to us by the Government. However, those boosters are not enough to serve the people of that centre. The Kapenguria Water Project has completely stalled. It provides very little water. There is no sewerage system. The Government should provide money to build more water projects. When you fly over some of the catchment areas, you will see the problem of overpopulation and destruction of forests. The Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development should work together with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife to assist those areas by planting trees.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at the Printed Estimates on page 494, sub-heads 936 and 937, the Rural Water Supply construction has been allocated Kshs75 million, while Urban Water Supply Construction is allocated Kshs498 million. I do not see the logic behind that because most Kenyans live in the rural areas. There are even more trading centres in the rural areas. How will the Ministry provide water and maintain boreholes in the rural areas with Kshs75 million?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you will look at the Printed Estimates, you will realise that the Ministry has pushed us into donor funds, while other districts have been given direct grants by the Government of Kenya ranging from Kshs4 million to Kshs5 million. But some of us who come from the ASAL areas, we have been told to wait for donor funds which we do not know whether they will come or not. We should get direct funding from the Government whether it is Kshs 5 million or Kshs10 million. It should be equally distributed instead of pushing us to donor funds from either the French Government or the Chinese Government which might come at the end of the year in December. We want direct Government funding so that we can also benefit from that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to talk about water pollution. If you visit health institutions in dry areas, you will realise that there are very many waterborne diseases there because the population has increased. Also, there is encroachment on water catchment areas. I know there is an Act of Parliament and other laws, but they are not being implemented. Therefore, the Ministry should implement the law and arrest the people who are encroaching into water catchment areas. We are spending a lot of money treating our people in our dispensaries and yet it is something we can control. We can fight the encroachment of water catchment areas so that we help our own people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister talked about the Water Advisory Committee. If that committee is to be formed, we should consider all the areas across the board. Let us not pick people from urban centres only to be members of that Board, but the other areas like West Pokot should be represented in the Water Apportionment Board and the Water Advisory Committee

because we have suffered badly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have irrigation schemes. As I speak, in my own constituency, there are six permanent rivers with big volumes of water. These are Morun, Wei Wei, Lomut, Chesogon, Embobut and Arror River in Marakwet District. Could the Ministry construct dams within those rivers? There is a lot of research which was done by the Kerio Valley Development Authority (KVDA) and the project proposals are there. We should build mini-dams from which we can irrigate our farms. This is very important. We talk about drought all the time and yet we have water within those areas which goes to waste. Research must be done on rain water harvesting systems. Many people are building iron sheets houses. We should work with NGOs within those rural areas on how to harvest rain water. That is good pure water.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

(Mr. J. Nyagah stood up in his place)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): But, Mr. J. Nyagah, for the record, the Chair does not recognise you as a pastoralist!

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. J. Nyagah): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am a semi-pastoralist because Mbeere is an ASAL district and we suffer like all the other speakers who have spoken.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me start by thanking the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development for her excellent presentation. I would like to thank her because I know she is capable and she will do a good job in this Ministry. I would also like to thank the Ministry officials who have accompanied her. She is the first Minister to come with a big team that has filled the two Civil Service Benches. That is a clear indication of the seriousness which this Ministry attaches to the subject we are discussing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in future, some of the biggest problems like tribal clashes, in this country are going to be created by people fighting over water. In future, Egypt and Kenya are going to disagree over issues related to water. So, we must be very careful when discussing this issue. I hope the Ministry will address the agreements we have with Egypt and Sudan. It is critical that Kenya is allowed to have access to that water. It is also critical that we are not penalised by colonial agreements which we had nothing to do with. We should be allowed to use our water. I hope the Ministry will pay special attention to this particular matter because it can cause a serious crisis.

As we know, Egypt is carrying out big irrigation projects using our water, but if we attempt to do that, we are stopped by those agreements. So, since the Minister is new and understands all these agreements, I would request her to pay attention to that matter so that we can get it out of the way and benefit from it.

Similarly, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to support the Minister for saying that Egypt and Israel have benefitted to a large extent because of the priority which they have given to water. We must also give similar priority to water. If 90 per cent of Kenya is low potential, it, therefore, implies that water is critical. I would like to see priority being given by the Government so that we put water in the same category as Egypt and Israel. That is the only way we can develop.

If the future of Kenya is in agriculture, the small areas which have been feeding us for the last 100 years will never be able to feed us again. We will only be able to feed Kenya if we open up the rest of Kenya; that is, the low potential areas by providing water. We do not want piped water as the first priority, that can be phase two. In phase one, we want boreholes so that we have water within close proximity. In Gachoka and Siakago where my colleague comes from, our women walk long distances looking for water. We would like to reduce that distance by drilling boreholes within close proximity. I know drilling a borehole is cheap because I have done several of them in my constituency through

Harambee basis. But when it is done by the Ministry, it is very expensive. We must find ways of reducing the cost.

*(Ms. Karua consulted with
other Ministers)*

Madam Minister, please, pay attention to the cost of boreholes so that instead of doing one in my constituency, we can drill more than one. That will spread them to a big area and reduce the distance which our women have to travel.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing we could do in our area is to build dams. We need to scoop a little valley, put up a wall, construct a section for cows and goats and a section for our people. We would be very grateful. We will keep on voting for the Government year in, year out, if we can get water. The other way of doing it is that we have many seasonal rivers. Our rivers flow temporarily and disappear after one week. Do not interfere with the big rivers! If we can [**The Assistant Minister for Agriculture**]

block those valleys and tap those seasonal rivers, that will address our problems. Once we have done that, we shall be worried about phase two, which is piped water and treated water. I am not saying that we do not want it. We want it, but let it come as phase two.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to support---

(An hon. Member interjected)

I am told it is called phase three; the bottled water from Keringet. I would like to support hon. Members who have spoken about the need for maintenance. We have many projects in this country that were started many years ago. Could we complete them? Could we rehabilitate them? Could we put big money in them? Before we start new projects, could we give them high priority? There are many pipes underground. There are many projects that need to be re-done and worked on. If we could spend some money on them, we could overcome big problems. I fully understand why there is a desire for new projects. I know why it is important. But we do not want those ones. We want old projects completed, so that we could get moving. That is the only way we can do it. It will help us.

In areas where Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) operate, we would like to see better coordination between them and the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development. In some of the areas where we come from, some NGOs are active in that field. A better coordination, and not rivalry, would guarantee us water at shorter distances. I have seen a bit of rivalry between the Ministry and NGOs, and that has cost us boreholes and water projects in the past. But I know that in the present, it will not happen. Let us ensure it does not happen.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to irrigation, I am happy that the Ministry is dealing with it. My constituency borders a very large project called the Mwea Irrigation Scheme. When the scheme collapses, my people suffer automatically. I am happy the Minister is going to pay attention to that irrigation scheme, so that as food is being produced in that area, my people have a place to work. They earn their living there. The failure of that irrigation scheme four to five years ago meant the loss of jobs for many people. I hope that, that irrigation scheme will get more money. The money we have got is very little. It is peanuts. We urge the Treasury to find ways and means of funding irrigation schemes, so that we can increase our food production and in the process, my people can benefit.

Finally, I want to talk about the environment. Mount Kenya used to have snow throughout the year. But today, most of the time, it does not have snow at the very top. The effect of that is that

rivers flowing further down are affected. I hope that there is going to be better coordination between the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. It is critical that the two Ministries work very closely. We must plant millions of trees. We must protect our forests. That is the only way we can guarantee that there will be water. That is the only way we can guarantee that people who live downstream will benefit from the forests and big mountains like Elgon, Mau Escarpment and others. We need those forests. I hope the two Ministries will work together to guarantee future sources of water in order to avoid the tribal clashes that I have talked about.

In some advanced districts in the highlands, we have community water projects. Those are good projects. We encourage and support them, so that the residents will also feel that they are benefitting from those projects. There have been management problems in the past, where the communities have failed to manage them. There have been politics in matters of community projects. I hope the Minister will pay attention to them, so that they can benefit the people of those areas.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Muturi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to express my views on the Vote of the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development. I would like to join my colleagues on both sides of the House who have congratulated the Minister for taking seriously the task bestowed upon her. I also want to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member who has just contributed, a neighbour and brother from Mbeere District, Mr. J.W.N. Nyagah.

As you have heard from a number of hon. Members who have contributed to this Vote, water, which, as we all know, is life, is in my view one of those very scanty resources in the ASAL areas. Water is scanty in the ASAL areas because very little effort has been made to conserve the rivers which flow to most of those areas. There has not been any serious effort---

QUORUM

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): No, we do not have a quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! We have a quorum now.

You may proceed, Mr. Muturi.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am just wondering whether it is in order for an hon. Member to disrupt the business of the House just because he has not caught the Speaker's eye by raising a point of order on lack of Quorum in the House. I think that is misuse of our Standing Orders.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Assistant Minister to---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! I have not given you a chance to speak. Sit down.

Continue, Mr. Muturi.

Mr. Muturi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was saying that very little effort has been made in the past to ensure that water is made available to the vast areas of this country, most of which are the ASAL.

We are aware that efforts have been made to allocate the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Corporation (NWCPC) reasonable resources. I do appreciate that this corporation has been allocated Kshs164 million this financial year. But I am worried that the NWCPC, which is really not a service organisation, is owed sums of money in excess of Kshs900 million. The NWCPC is owed that amount of money by some Ministries, local authorities, parastatals and individuals. Some of the individuals who are well known debtors of the corporation are big flower farmers. I would like to urge the Minister to put in place stringent measures to recover the amount of money owed to the NWCPC. I am saying this because this corporation is meant to pay dividends to the Government at the end of every year.

Mr. Khamasi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I hate to interrupt my friend, Mr. Muturi, but he has made a very serious allegation which he should be called upon to substantiate. He has said that some well known flower farmers owe the NWCPC some money. Could the hon. Member be requested to substantiate by naming the flower farmers he has talked about?

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is easy to substantiate that. All that is required of the hon. Member is to critically go through the Tenth Report of the PIC and he will see that what I have said is a matter of public knowledge. I do not need to substantiate matters of public knowledge. I cannot be asked to substantiate a matter contained in a Report adopted by this House. That cannot happen!

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I believe we do not want to break the rules of this House. A decision has been made before by the Speaker himself, that if you make an allegation and you are called upon to substantiate it, you must do so before you continue with your contribution. That is a ruling from the Speaker himself.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! I agree with you, Mr. Angwenyi. I was just coming to that before you took the role of the Chair.

(Laughter)

Mr. Muturi, please, substantiate the allegations you have made.

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my substantiation is that I have referred to a Report of the House. It is as if I am quoting a section of the law. I do not need to bring here a Report which has been adopted by this House to substantiate. The rules are very clear.

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! Let us have some order! Mr. Muturi, you have been challenged to substantiate and the rules of the House are clear on this. You either substantiate, or withdraw your remarks and apologise to the House and continue with your contribution.

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): No! Let Mr. Muturi substantiate or withdraw his allegation and apologise to the House first.

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw the fact that this House did adopt the Tenth Report of the PIC, and that the people mentioned in that Report as being debtors of the NWCPC are not debtors, if that will please the hon. Member.

Mr. Khamasi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Mr. Muturi should not take this House for granted. The hon. Member has withdrawn a matter he has not alleged. We have requested him to substantiate a claim he has made in this House, but he is now withdrawing a different matter. Will you allow him to contribute to this Vote when he has not substantiated the allegation he has made?

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the farmers along the Nol Turesh water pipeline are well known.

Hon. Members: Name them! Who are they?

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, since I do not have the details on those farmers, I will withdraw and proceed.

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to pay tribute to Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that are involved in the water sector, particularly in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL). I want to urge that because the Ministry is the repository of technicians, it should cultivate greater coordination with some of those NGOs, most of which are operating without the necessary technical advice.

I am amused by the handling of the water sector by the Nairobi City Council. If you look at this week's report, you will see that the Nairobi City Council collects less than 40 per cent of the total water revenue. That is due to inefficiency, as they admitted in their recent council meeting, poor billing, corruption and late billing. I am happy that the Ministry is taking over the management of water within the city, in a bid to commercialise it. We hope that the residents of this city will receive better services than they have received in last 10 to 15 years. It is desirable that development should be spread across the country equitably. But if you look through the Development Estimates, as much as I commend the Minister, there is open bias towards urban water projects as opposed to rural water projects. I would ask the Minister, especially when you look at the Government component, to consider the fact that in order to balance between the water needs in the rural areas and those in urban areas, greater emphasis should be paid to the rural residents in future. I also appreciate that part of the reason for that bias is that water in urban areas is viewed to be a profitable undertaking and, perhaps, that is why there is greater emphasis on it. I would say that we need water in the rural areas to encourage farming through irrigation, especially in districts like Mbeere where I come from. I can see my friend Mrs. Mwendwa smiling because she knows we share a common boundary.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitution Affairs (Mr. Githae): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Vote for the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development. It is common knowledge that the Minister is one of the most hard-working Ministers, and we are very grateful. May she continue doing her good work. Water is life, as many people have said. Clean water is also very important. Many people have started drinking mineral water. They are saying that mineral water is better than tap water and we need a clarification. Even in this House, we sometimes take *Keringet* mineral water, while at other times we take other brands of mineral water, and we now have *Dasani* bottled water. So, we need to know whether mineral water is actually better than tap water. We are told that there are some people who are bottling ordinary tap water and calling it mineral water. Others are bottling borehole water and calling it mineral water. Therefore, we need some standards and specification, so that people are not misled. If we are going to buy this commodity called "mineral water", which is actually more expensive than petrol, then we need to get value for our money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is surprising that in Kenya we have problems of water

when we have the largest fresh water lake in the whole world - Lake Victoria. All that is needed is to pump that water to Timboroa, and it can flow to any part of Kenya by gravity. It is high time we started thinking of doing so. The water in Lake Victoria belongs to us; it does not belong to other countries. So, we should not be bound by certain agreements that were entered into by certain parties, who did not seem to know what they were talking about. We actually need to harvest water from Lake Victoria.

Another problem that we have in this country is water pollution. I always get amazed when I see people wash their cars beside rivers. The Ministry needs to issue instructions barring people from washing their cars beside rivers, because doing so pollutes water. Also, we have a problem of people bathing in rivers. That also causes pollution. So, the Ministry also needs to issue instructions to bar people from bathing in rivers. Instead, people should draw water from the rivers and take a bath in enclosures within their homes. It is also immoral for somebody to bathe naked in a river, and that should be discouraged.

Because of the degradation of our environment, even the snow on Mount Kenya has disappeared; it only appears once or twice in a year. So, we need to encourage people to plant trees. I can see that Prof. Maathai is here. I would like to inform her that we now have somebody who has exceeded her rate of tree planting, namely, Mr. Peter Kenneth. To-date, Mr. Kenneth has planted over 8,000,000 trees. So, Prof. Maathai needs to do a little bit more to reclaim her number one position as far as tree planting is concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the law is very clear that unless a town has a sewerage system in place, its local authority should not approve the construction of storey buildings in it. It is amazing that some urban centres have buildings with four or five floors even though they do not have sewerage systems in place. Such buildings only create pollution. Therefore, instructions need to be issued to ensure that in towns where there are no sewerage systems, the number of floors in buildings is limited to one.

It is surprising that so much of the rain water that falls in this country flows into River Tana, which drains it into the Indian Ocean. We need to harvest rain water. I am particularly glad that women in rural areas have taken a step in this direction. Many women groups in the rural areas are putting up small water tanks for their members for the purpose of harvesting rain water. The Ministry needs to encourage such activities. These women are collecting water; it is not getting wasted. Also, doing that saves them a lot of time. We are told that in any given day, women in the rural areas spend one third of their time looking for water. I do not know why men do not help their womenfolk by going to draw water. I think they should; everybody should look for water.

Mrs. Mwendwa: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker. Men do not help women in the search for water because they believe that if they spend any of their time drawing water, they will lose part of their manhood.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Ooh! I did not know that. What I am saying is that we need to share such responsibilities. I think everybody---

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. You have heard the gracious lady say that if a man spends part of his time looking for water, he will lose part of his manhood. What part of his manhood will a man lose if he draws water?

(Laughter)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Mwenje, you are overruled! Proceed, Mr. Assistant Minister.

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the word "manhood" does not refer to an organ.

What I am saying is that, as a matter of urgency, we need to provide water to everybody in this country, and not just to people in ASAL areas. Everybody needs water. Some research findings have shown that lack of water is causing divorces in this country. If there is no water, women will not be able to take a bath. Consequently, men will not be attracted to their women. Therefore, lack of water has an effect on the rate of divorce. So, in order to maintain stability in our families, we must have water.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sometime back there was a policy which required that all water should be metered. This policy was changed through a presidential directive. The intention of that directive was good, but it has completely backfired. For instance, when all the water metres were removed in my constituency, and every person started paying Kshs300 per month for water, people stopped closing their water taps. In fact, they let tap water to run into their banana and maize fields. Consequently, the Ndia Water Project, which was capable of supplying water to the entire region, now supplies water to only one eighth of the people in the upper region.

After the removal of the water meters in that constituency, whether one consumed one litre or 10,000 cubic litres of water in any given month, he paid only Kshs300. The intention of that presidential directive was good, but it completely backfired. Therefore, water should be metered, so that everybody pays for the water he or she uses. Instead of supplying water to residential areas without metering it, the charges on the commodity should be reduced. The removal of water metres has encouraged wastefulness in the use of the commodity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is need for us to emulate the French-speaking countries. Most of the towns in these countries have two water pipes. One of the pipes carries clean water, which is expensive, while the other carries ordinary water, which is neither filtered nor treated. The water carried by the second pipe is used for irrigation and washing. It is cheap and, therefore, people can afford it. The other pipe carries treated and filtered water. That way, we can provide cheap water to almost everybody. My fear is that if we privatise water services, water will become very expensive, and the majority of Kenyans will not afford it.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Kipchumba: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I make my contribution, of course I am going to support the Motion, I wish to recognise the fact that the Minister in charge of this Ministry has been one of the most excellent Ministers that we have in this Government. I think the best answers that we usually get from the Ministers come from the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development. The rest are a big joke!

I would like to tell the Minister that if she wants to be the President of this country next time, she should give water to the rural women and they will all vote for her. That is a fact of life!

(Applause)

I wish to make a few observations from this year's Budget. We realise that, yesterday when I was making my contribution, I said 80 per cent of the money goes to Recurrent Expenditure and 20 per cent to Development Expenditure. It is the other way round now in the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development, where most of the money goes to Development Expenditure. I would like to urge the Ministry to ensure that water, which is a natural resource, is owned by the Government. Water sources should be owned by the Government because if you leave them to communities, there are bound to be a lot of quarrels and problems. I would like to give a very simple example for those who do not know what commercialisation of water is all about. All you need to do is visit Eldoret and we will show you what it is all about.

We have a new company called ELDOWAS which is 100 per cent owned by the municipality. It gets water from another district. The problem we have is that the other district feels that

ELDOWAS should pay Kshs36 million to the other county council. If this company will pay that kind of money, it means that the water in Eldoret Municipality will be very expensive and, therefore, unaffordable to the people. We are requesting the Ministry to sort out this problem, even if it means paying the Kshs36 million to the other county council, so that we can get water cheaply and give to our people water efficiently. We are making this request because, as we talk, there are a lot of problems. These people have given us an invoice of Kshs36 million and we are unable to pay the money. We used to get our water from Kaptagat Forest and I am happy that the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife is here. The forest was depleted, and now we cannot get sufficient water from it. Therefore, I would urge the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife to ensure that they protect the sources of water. The biggest enemy to the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development is the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife. It is quite unfortunate that as we talk, the Minister has ordered that trees should not be destroyed. However, trees are being cut everyday in Kaptagat Forest. I was there yesterday, and they are almost depleting the forest and the Minister is here issuing statements that the trees should not be destroyed.

As I said, we used to get our water from here and what has now happened is that the community has developed its own project. They are getting water from the forest on their own and they are consuming raw water. It is unfortunate that people have gone to a situation of consuming untreated water.

I support my colleagues who have said that water is now more expensive than petrol, despite the fact that we get our oil from Saudi Arabia. Even after duty, transport, inspection and other charges, the petrol arrives to this country at a price of Kshs55 per litre whereas our water which we take everyday, costs about Kshs90 per litre. It is a shame that we should continue to buy water and waste a lot of money on it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at it critically, we have companies now, just as my colleagues have said, which are selling raw unprocessed water and labelling it "mineral" water. I am not sure whether they just get the tap water and sell it to us. They label it with whatever name and sell it. It is time that the Ministry stepped in to save Kenyans from paying money to buy what belongs to them. We would not want to experience an embarrassing situation like the one we experienced the whole of last month, where the whole of Nairobi went without water for almost three weeks. What a shame for this country! 40 years after Independence we cannot supply water to ourselves! How will tourists feel when they wake up in the morning and find that there is no water in their hotels? That is why I commend the Government for transferring the docket of water management from the Ministry of Local Government to the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to commend the Ministry because we did not have sufficient sewerage facilities in Eldoret, but I can see that they have put in quite some good money for that. We are happy that, that project will be completed. I am sure that if it was under the Ministry of Local Government, that money would not have been utilized properly. That is why I would like to commend this Ministry for a job well done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our biggest problem is the rehabilitation of the existing dams. When the colonial Government left, they left a lot of dams existing almost everywhere in this country. The problem is that we have been unable to maintain them. It is time that we put in some reasonable amount of money to ensure that these dams are maintained. One dam broke down in my constituency the other day and it cost nearly about Kshs3 million to put it into use. As I talk, about 10,000 Kenyans are going without water because they depended on this dam. I have been running around and it seems that nothing is forthcoming. That is why I am saying that we should ensure that an assessment of the dams is done. The Government should reconstruct them afresh, if need be, because these dams were built nearly 50 years ago.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have heard several times the Minister for Local Government say that a lot of water is being wasted in Nairobi; about 60 per cent of it. I do not know what is being done about it. It is quite unfortunate that water is being wasted when we badly need it in this country. We would like to see a development plan. Let it be very ambitious. I remember KANU used to say that by the year 2020 there would be water for everybody. Do not worry whether that goal will be achieved or not, but it is good to be ambitious. Say that by the year 2030 there will be water for every Kenyan, whether it will be treated water or not, let us just work hard towards that goal, because if we do not have an objective, then we are working towards nothing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like the Ministry to have a policy of protecting the sources of water. I have seen in the Budget that some very little money is going to the Lake Victoria Catchment Afforestation Programme. I wish there was adequate money to be allocated to all the places that are sources of water for this country. It should not only be Lake Victoria; we should also allocate money to other water sources for Kenyans. We talked of Water Services Boards. If we had efficient and respectable people in these boards, like we have in Eldoret, I am sure water would be managed in a very good way. I think the problem that we have is that of water conservation, like my friends have said. If we were to conserve rain water, which is actually in abundance, I think we would not run into problems. Look at this problem of Lake Victoria seriously, because I think it has been overlooked for very many years. It is time that an agreement that does make sense to us was thrown out through the window. It does not matter! Our people cannot die because of an agreement that was signed between a *Mzungu* and a *Mwarabu*. It is up to Kenyans to now say: "This agreement does not serve us and, therefore, we should not honour it." I think that is the situation.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to---

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

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Wanjala, you are out of order. Order, Mr. Wanjala! Mr. Wetangula is on the Floor.

Mr. Wanjala: And I am on a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): You are overruled!

Proceed, Mr. Wetangula!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to request hon. Wanjala not to "eat" into my time. I also want to join my colleagues---

Mr. Kembi-Gitura: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not want to sound unreasonable or unfair, but I have been sitting here the whole afternoon and I have noticed that on our side, only the Members of the Front Bench have been given a chance to speak. Also on the other side only the Members of the Shadow Cabinet have been given a chance to speak and yet we are discussing a very important matter.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Your point is noted.

Proceed, Mr. Wetangula!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to start of by joining my colleagues in praising [**The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs**] the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development, hon. Karua, for doing a good job. If you have noticed the manner in which she answers her Questions here and responds to issues both in and outside the House, then you will agree that she deserves some commendation.

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to start off with the issue of over-exploitation of certain water resources in this country and I have Lake Naivasha in mind. If you visit Lake Naivasha, you get an automatic feeling that this lake is being choked by developers. It is being over-exploited and I wonder whether the Ministry charges these exotic farmers for the lake water that they use for their flower growing. It is such a levy that we believe will enable us to spread water to rural areas. I want to urge the Minister to look into the question of levying charges on those who use our raw waters for agricultural purposes. This should also apply to those who dam rivers and engage in large-scale coffee production and all other agricultural activities.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister, in moving her Motion, said that Kenya is a "water scarce" country. I would not want to think that actually the scarcity of water persists in this country because there is no water. It is because her Ministry is grossly under-funded. I am sure if this Ministry was properly funded, the issue of scarcity of water in Kenya would not arise. We have big rivers flowing down the Coast. We have all the waters emptying into Lake Victoria and so on and so forth. I want to urge the Government, starting with the Minister herself, to ensure that the little money that she has been given this year, should be put to good use. However, as we go to the next Budget next year, she should make a much larger request for funding than she has been given this year. I say this because water, as has been said everywhere, is life and in this country like elsewhere, every single family needs water. We do not want to engage in rhetorical pledges that we will have water by the year 2000 and when we get closer to 2000, we shift the goalposts to 2020. When we get closer to 2020, I do not know which year we shall shift the goalposts to. We want a practical approach on how we are going to make sure that there is clean water available at the doorstep of every household.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have always talked about the mighty Lake Victoria which is the largest fresh water lake on this continent and only the second in the world. If you go around the lake in constituency of my friend like Raphael Wanjala, and see the kind of water that wananchi access, you feel embarrassed to note that with all that kind of fresh water around them, they should be victims of water borne diseases like typhoid and so on. Also, I would want to urge the Minister to get programmes in place so that raw water can be used for food production. If this country utilised the waters of Lake Victoria, we would be net exporters of all manner of food crops to the rest of the world. I would want to urge the Government starting with my colleague, the Minister, to take steps and disregard the notorious Nile Treaty if it exists. This country provides 72 per cent of the waters of Lake Victoria. All the catchment areas are under our management and we get nothing out of it. From time to time, we get to hear how---

Mr. Omingo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member on the Floor, who happens to be the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs in charge of protocol, in order to just stand up and haphazardly say that we should disregard the treaty without telling us how it is supposed to be done?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Omingo, you are out of order. The hon. Member is here in his capacity as a Member of Parliament.

Proceed, Mr. Wetangula!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rightly described it as the notorious Nile Treaty entered between an illegal colonial regime and another foreign country. We have to look at it and we need to look at it and it will even benefit the hon. Member who has raised the point of order.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one other way of utilising our waters is through construction of dams. In this country prior to Independence and immediately after Independence, we had a policy of construction of dams that would hold storm water and could be used for agricultural

purposes for animal use and so on. In my district of Bungoma, we have not had any new dam being constructed since Independence. As a matter of fact, I want to bring to the attention of the Minister that due to neglect in the maintenance of the few dams that exist--- I have a dam in my constituency which, in fact, has been destroyed by wananchi who are planting vegetables on the base of the dam because the Ministry has not been looking after these dams properly. I would want the Minister to have a policy of first protecting the catchment areas of these dams by planting trees and above all, protecting the dams from encroachment from human activities.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we urge the Government to provide water to everybody, I have no doubt that Kenyans are ready to pay for it. I would want the Minister to come up with a proper policy on how she is going to levy some payments on the water that we use, whether we are in urban areas or rural areas. This is because whether it is rural or urban, the Ministry requires money so that they can continue providing services. I know that Kenyans will strive to pay if you give them quality water. As it is now, and my hon. colleague just mentioned it, there is a terrible proliferation of fraudulent owners of bogus water companies who just sit in their houses, bottle water, label it, give it all manner of descriptions like calcium mineral and all sorts of names and then off load it to wananchi. I do not even believe that some of these bottled water gets to the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KBS) for testing. I think the Minister should get into this matter and create a unit which will look into this bottled water business. This mineral water costs about Kshs 100 per litre yet a litre of petrol, as my hon. colleague said, costs about Kshs50. It is a shame that water can be more expensive than petrol when we have the great Lake Victoria in our midst.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that the Minister for Water Resources Management and Development - I know her because she is my learned friend and I have worked with her in many areas - is going to take up all these issues that hon. Members are raising. I am sure in two or three years to come, Kenya will be different in terms of water provision and management.

As I wind up, I want the Minister to work hand in hand with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife; which she said was an enemy to her Ministry. The management of environment in this country has not been satisfactory to many people and if we really want the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development to succeed, then, the Ministry for Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife needs to wake up and protect our water catchment areas.

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

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Vote for various reasons. Firstly, the Ministry of Water Resources Management and Development is being run by a level headed lady and a manager, of whom we have very high expectations. I am sure the Ministry has got qualified staff. It only lacks proper policies and management. Now that the Government has filled that position with a good Minister and good Assistant Ministers, I am sure they will deliver.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we would like to have a proper water policy that considers empowering women-folk in this country. In fact, affirmative action, should be started by providing water to our women-folk throughout the country. As one hon. colleague said, women spend about one-third of their working hours looking for water. Even women who live in areas with plenty of rivers, streams and springs still take a lot of time going to look for water instead of going to there shambas to produce food for this country.

We need to have a good policy on water pollution. I come from an area where there is plenty of water, but it is so polluted. All rivers in Gusiiland are polluted because we are densely populated. We use our rivers as part of the sewage system so the people who live downstream are forced to fetch polluted water. I would urge the Minister to look at the densely populated areas like Kisii District, the Kipsigis, Nandi, Luhya and some of the Mount Kenya areas which are densely populated and she will see that their rivers are heavily polluted.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we must have a policy on how to harvest rainfall. How

should we harvest rain water? Why do we allow our rain water to go to the lakes or the ocean? Why can we not harvest it? I am sure if we devoted resources to harvesting rain water, this country would be self-sufficient in water because rain water is clean and ready for use by people. I hope the Minister will bring the policy papers before this House so that we can approve them and ask the Government to fund that Ministry appropriately so that it provides clean water to our people. We would want to have a policy that tackles the problem of how we can support the small water projects which have been initiated throughout the country. By so doing, we will be assisting these people who have taken steps to provide water for themselves, but they lack the adequate resources to complete their projects. This Minister gives us some of the best answers in this House, whenever we ask her Questions. I know she is listening. She is an expert and I do not know when she learns to do these things. We are asking the good Minister to provide adequate resources to support our people who had initiated water projects.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a shame that we have not utilised natural water resources given by God to this nation. We have Lake Victoria, the largest fresh water lake in Africa, yet we do not have fresh water supplied to Kisumu residents. It is a shame that we have a fresh water lake and the people who live around that lake cannot get it. The Minister for Water Resources Management and Development should ensure that the pollution of water in Lake Victoria is appropriately tackled, so that we can get clean drinking water in Kisumu, Homa Bay and all the towns around that lake. We could even pump that water to Timboroa and irrigate most of the dry parts of the Rift Valley Province and produce food for this nation and for export. That would raise our standards of living.

We can use Lake Victoria for transportation. If you go to Amsterdam, you will find tourists go there to use canals. The canals earn money for that nation. Why can we not use Lake Victoria for transportation, instead of constructing a road from Kenya to Jinja or Kampala? Why can we not use Lake Victoria to travel from Kisumu to Jinja or Entebbe, so that instead of using money to construct roads, it can be used to provide water for our people. This country has not used its water resources properly. We could construct canals. We could have some of these lakes like Lake Natron and Lake Naivasha for tourist attraction. Instead of making the lakes tourist attraction sites, we are chocking them out. We are polluting and encroaching on them.

With regard to the issue of arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), I believe that if the Minister would want to construct ten boreholes in each constituency in the ASAL areas, she is capable of doing it. If she wanted to construct four or five dams in each constituency in the country, she is capable of doing it. All she needs to do is to buy machinery. We have got our army men who have no work do to.

The Minister should deploy the army men to construct dams and boreholes in those areas. She should just provide them with some machinery and some inducement. You know, Kenyans believe in inducement. Give them something small, so that they can construct dams in North Eastern Province. So, the Minister should deploy our Armed Forces personnel as well as men and women from the National Youth Service to construct dams and boreholes in areas where they are required.

We used to have irrigation schemes in Bura, Kano, Perkeria and Kerio Valley, but they are now dead. Could the Minister undertake to revive them? If she asks for resources, I am sure this House will approve them. We can even increase taxation, so that we can provide adequate resources to start irrigation schemes in the country. The grain producing areas have reached their highest production capacity. So, the only way we can increase the production of grains is through irrigating most parts of this country. If we were to convert the Habaswein Basin Swamp into a grain producing area, I understand the area can produce enough grains for this country and for export. This will make people from North Eastern Province believe that they are Kenyans. We have had floods in Budalangi Constituency.

The other day, I was really scared when I saw Mr. Wanjala in water.

Mr. Shaaban: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Have you heard the

hon. Member say that the people of North Eastern Province would believe that they are Kenyans? We do not believe that we are Kenyans, but we are, indeed, Kenyans. Could you order him to withdraw that serious statement?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the hon. Member. People from North Eastern Province always say that they are neglected. **Mr. Shaaban:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could Mr. Angwenyi withdraw the word "believe"? We do not believe that we are Kenyans. We are, indeed, Kenyans. That is a serious statement.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Mr. Angwenyi, you kind of imputed that hon. Members from North Eastern Province may not be Kenyans. Could you clarify that position?

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was referring to a statement that was made by some hon. Members from North Eastern Province. I am being interrupted. Let the hon. Members listen to me.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! It is simple.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw and apologise. Finally, when the Minister is providing resources, she must know where they are coming from. If they are coming from Mount Kenya or Kisii, she should give more of those resources to that area.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Wanjala: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to contribute to the debate on this important Motion.

I will start by thanking the Government for its response to this year's floods in Budalangi Constituency. It is a new Government and it really tried to save the lives of the people. I also commend the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that came to our aid. Indeed, whatever donations they gave us, we received and we appreciate. As I told you, this Motion is very important. People say that water is life and to us in Budalangi Constituency, water has turned into danger. When other people are crying that they need water, we have excess water and do not even know where to take it. It has flooded our homes and farms. It has displaced us and we have nowhere to live. We are living in makeshift houses.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, many people have commended the current Minister for Water Resources Management and Development. I also want to commend her and I know that she is capable. But it is quite unfortunate that our Government does not act like the Americans do. In America, when a new Government comes in, it comes in with new brains and new working systems. We have a very hard working Minister, who is able, but she inherited the technocrats who failed the last Government. These are people who did not perform. Instead, they destroyed and misplanned for this country. I have been going through this Budget---

QUORUM

Mr. Keter: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We do not have a quorum in this House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Yes, we do not have a quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order! We have a quorum now. Proceed, Mr. Wanjala.

Mr. Wanjala: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I was saying that recently, people of Baringo Central were complaining of not having water. It was not for the Head of State at

that time to take water to Baringo; it was for the technocrats in the Ministry to fly and take water there. Those are the people who failed the previous regime. I want to assure the hon. Minister for Water Resources Management and Development that these are the people who are going to fail her too. At the district level, we did very well and submitted our reports before the Budget day. In the report, we said that our dykes are 18km long on each side. We need slightly more than Kshs120 million to rehabilitate them. The same people have now planned to disregard our report from the district and are allocating us Kshs37 million. What will Kshs37 million do? I want to tell you that today, the relief received from the Red Cross, other organisations and the Government is enormous. So far, the Government has spent more than Kshs200 million just for this season. The people who live in the flooded areas will still live there for the next two years, for instance in Budalangi.

Again in August next year, just before we have sealed the worn out dykes, the floods will come in. Last week when there were some light rains on the higher grounds of Cherengani area we got more floods coming in. It is an issue over which the technocrats have let the previous Government down and they are going to do the same to this Government. It is not for the Minister to plan but for the technocrats to know what is supposed to be done where. If you look at the development plan book, you will see that monies have been allocated to those who are in power. Why? Because those technocrats want to appease the powerful people and indeed they allocate most of the money to their areas. If you check on the Budget, you will find that we have Bunyala Irrigation Scheme which collapsed because of poor planning. The Ministry has not allocated even a single shilling to this scheme; nothing is appearing there. Those in the Ministry are planning to start small scale irrigation schemes in Mount Kenya region and they have allocated Kshs34 million towards it. What is that? Are we going to start new schemes or we are going to, first, enhance and enlarge the ones that are existing and then continue improving the new ones that are coming up? Our Government is not let down---

Mr. Cheboi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not know if this is hon. Wanjala. If he is the one, then I wish to congratulate him through the Chair because he is speaking a lot of sense.

(Laughter)

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to tell the hon. Member that Mr. Wanjala has always been independent minded all along and that is why he was re-elected. I want to tell him that hon. Wanjala speaks what he knows is right, whether you are there or not.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Address the Chair!

Mr. Wanjala: Some of the Ministry officials do not come from areas which become flooded. Even if their areas flood, they do not go there. They do not know how the situation is because they have not seen it.

Today, I can tell you that none of the people from the Ministry has ever been to Budalangi to see how people are suffering.

That is why they do not know the impact of floods. Floods come at night and sweep away property. People stay in makeshift shelters and even mature children have to stay with their parents in the same tent for two years. How do you expect these children to go to school? HIV/AIDS must be prevalent in those areas. The affected people have no water to drink. Now that there were floods in Budalangi and, the water in the boreholes got mixed up with the waste from toilets that collapsed, ask the officials from the Ministry how much they have allocated for digging new boreholes or even bringing piped water to Budalangi; and there is nothing. These are the people we call civil servants who are serving our Government. Even if we are employing old people, they should be able to work. This is what we should have done. They should go. It is so embarrassing for me to stand here again next year asking for relief food and yet I am in the Government I struggled for. I want to remind you that I was one man whom KANU planned to kill together with the current President and they threw a bomb at us in Busia. If I complain about water again next year, it will be embarrassing. This is our priority.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! It is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, 17th July, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.35 p.m.