

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 14th April, 1999

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

*[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]*

## PRAYERS

## NOTICES OF MOTIONS

### ESTABLISHMENT OF KENYA FISH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**Mr. Kajwang':** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-  
THAT, in view of the Government's concern for the eradication of poverty, and considering the great potential of wealth and employment generated from the effective development of the fishing industry, this House recommends that the Government establishes Kenya Fish Development Authority under the Fisheries Act Cap 378 of the Laws of Kenya to foster, promote and develop the fishing industry in Kenya.

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notices of the following Motions:-

### ABOLISHMENT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN KENYA

THAT, in order to enhance the protection of the right to life, this House urges the Government to introduce the necessary legislation to abolish capital punishment in Kenya.

### ABOLISHMENT OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN KENYA

THAT, in view of the fact that corporal punishment is a barbaric, cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, this House urges the Government to introduce the necessary legal amendments to abolish it forthwith.

### MARSHALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR NORTH EASTERN PROVINCE

**Mr. Keynan:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to give notice of the following Motion:-  
THAT, in view of the gross underdevelopment, marginalisation and impoverishment of the people of North Eastern Province; noting that the area has a high agricultural and livestock production potential, sufficient water resources and arable land; noting further that the programmes initiated by the Government since Independence have failed to stimulate economic growth in the region; aware that inadequate and poor maintenance of infrastructure has not only drastically reduced productivity and induced attendant losses in production but also has discouraged investment; noting that nothing is being done to restore the serviceability of all roads sections, resulting in increased user-operating costs, escalated costs of rehabilitation and reconstruction; and noting with concern that health, education and security sectors are crumbling, this House urges the Government:

- (i) To establish an emergency fund to revamp roads, health and education infrastructures.
- (ii) To draw a comprehensive marshall plan to salvage the province from economic collapse.
- (iii) To solicit for domestic and foreign donor fundings for such essential projects as water, livestock production, health and education.

**POINT OF ORDER****MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:  
RE-NEGOTIATION OF LOME IV**

**Mr. Kombo:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to seek a Ministerial Statement from the Vice-President who is also the Minister for Planning and National Development on the progress in the negotiations between the African-Caribbean-Pacific countries and the European Union. I think many Kenyans are concerned that there is a major event taking place; that the Lome IV is being re-negotiated, and it could either adversely affect Kenyans, but the stakeholders, that is the farmers or the producers, of products have no idea of what is going on. Parliament, which I think should be giving input, has no idea of what is going on. The negotiations are taking place and the Vice-President is the chief negotiator on behalf of ACP, since he chairs the Council of Ministers and, yet, we, as Kenyans, do not know what is happening. So, as stakeholders, I would seek a Ministerial Statement on this matter.

**The Vice-President and Minister for Planning and National Development (Prof. Saitoti):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to thank hon. Kombo for asking for a Ministerial Statement regarding the current state of the negotiations between ACP countries and the European Union. Indeed, I have been planning to be briefed precisely on what he has said and I would like to inform this House that I will be in a position to come and make a Ministerial Statement tomorrow.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION****EXEMPTION OF BUSINESS FROM  
PROVISIONS OF S.O. NO.33**

**The Vice-President and Minister for Planning and National Development (Prof. Saitoti):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Procedural Motion:-

THAT, this House orders that the business appearing on today's Order Paper be exempted from the provisions of Standing Order No.33, being a Wednesday Morning, a day allocated for Private Members Motions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today is Wednesday, and this is a morning sitting in which we are supposed to deliberate on the Private Members Motions. I think the Private Members Motions were balloted last evening by the House Business Committee and as a result, there is no single Private Members Motion which has matured. So, it is in the light of that fact that this Motion is being brought here to the House, to allow that we do continue to deliberate on the Motion regarding His Excellency the President's Speech, so as to be able to carry on with the business.

**The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Ekirapa):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I rise to second the Motion. I believe that many hon. Members would like to contribute to the exposition of His Excellency the President on matters of national policy and, therefore, I think that today, they will be given some time to do precisely that. I, therefore, would like to second the Motion.

*(Question proposed)*

**Dr. Kituyi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while it is procedural and normal with our traditions that we do give these waivers, I think it is not nice to run ourselves in a collision and not say the truth. We will grant this but not because there is an overwhelming sense of public policy to contribute to, and there is not any at the present stage. It is because the business of the House is not ready, and on the understanding that, we are anticipating business of the House to get ready before we proceed. We can give that consensus but not because there is any procedure which goes with it.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**MOTION**

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

THAT, the thanks of this House be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address from the Chair on 6th April, 1999.

*(The Vice-President and Minister for Planning  
and National Development on 7.4.99)*

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 13.4.99)*

**Mr. Maore:** Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the Speech made by His Excellency the President on the Opening of the Session.

While acknowledging the fact that several pertinent issues were mentioned, it culminates as a kind of accumulative effect on which the Nyayo era has had on this country. When we have issues of insecurity, a state of almost economic collapse, where our infrastructure is almost destroyed; to conclude, it was a statement that talked of a sorry state of the nation.

When the Government says that it is retrenching about 60,000 teachers and also closing down the teacher training colleges, it is a move that the Government must rethink about, stop or seek parliamentary approval before it is implemented. It is a fundamental change in the way our education system is run. It is a major change in the way our Government lives on fraudulent policies in the sense that the IMF and the World Bank have been fed with wrong statistics that the teacher-pupil ratio is in disparity; that we have too many teachers for a few pupils. It is only in one province in this country where there are too many teachers than the pupils, but not the rest of the country. In many districts, the ones I am familiar with around Mt. Kenya region and even Nairobi, the teacher-pupil ratio is just unbelievable. There are too many pupils for one teacher. In other places, you would find eight pupils for one teacher. It does not work to lump these kinds of statistics to the World Bank and then start alleging that we have too many teachers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, another issue that comes out in the policy Speech by the President is about corruption in this country. They have destroyed all our institutions, including the Judiciary, and even those that collect revenue. In the Kenya Revenue Authority and the Immigration Department, the officers in those departments "literally live beyond their salaries". They have so much money that everybody knows that they receive extra money outside their salaries.

Another issue that we need to address is about our foreign policy. We need to have a well-co-ordinated foreign policy. During the recess, and specifically in January or February, there was a story of a Turkish leader who was abducted from this country. It is well-known that the Kenya Government participated in the abduction of Ocalan. In the process, that decision is going to put Kenyans, both abroad and even here, at risk. We are not Israel or the United States of America who have the capacity to contain, or even check, terrorism. Who is going to shoulder the effects of that misconduct on the side of our Government? Which officials in this Government received bribes to sell Ocalan to the Turkish Government? To transfer the PS, Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, or to remove the Immigration boss and the CID boss; all those things do not amount to a policy statement.

**The Vice-President and Minister for Planning and National Development** (Prof. Saitoti): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think I heard the hon. Member say categorically that some people in the Government received bribes to sell Ocalan. If, indeed, that is true, because that is a very serious allegation, I think the hon. Member must substantiate.

**Mr. Maore:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Leader of Government Business knows that the whole saga was a secret and even the bribes must have been secret.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Mr. Maore, you are being asked to substantiate the statement you made. So, you should not argue, but substantiate, if you can, or withdraw.

**Mr. Maore:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am ready if the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation or anybody from the Government would say that they genuinely released the man, then I would withdraw my statement. But as at the moment---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Hon. Maore, our Standing Orders require you to be personally responsible for the accuracy of the statements you make. You made one and you have been challenged to substantiate or withdraw it. Can you or can you not?

**Mr. Maore:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since I need the next five minutes, let me withdraw.

*(Applause)*

Another issue that dogged this country for seven years has something to do with our flawed laws in this country when dealing with fraud. There is one character in this country who has threatened to destroy the Judiciary. He has held a Press conference in Chester House to allege that he has been bribing Members of Parliament and that he has been buying documents from Government offices. In the United States of America and Italy where they deal with people who are involved in that magnitude of billion-dollar fraud, the Attorney-General is supposed to bring a law to Parliament which will allow the Anti-Corruption Act to seize his assets and freeze his accounts, to bar him from getting reunited with his money to go around bribing Judges and Members of Parliament. It is normal. This Government is very excited and very good at doing theatrics. When they say they are prosecuting somebody, they are pretending. They are not prosecuting anybody, in the sense they are trying to set a stage where public officials and other members of the public can go receiving bribes from the same character. So, let us be genuine in every move that we make.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other fundamental issue is the way we have arranged our institutions. I remember that in his address, Mr. Speaker asked hon. Members of the Front Bench to be issuing their policy statements from the Floor of the House and not in Harambee meetings. We are faced with a Cabinet full of Ministers who are not ready to work. They are only there to be seen and not to be heard. The Kenyan taxpayer is not getting services because there is nobody to implement them. Mention any Ministry and you will find that many of their Ministers are idle and are not ready to make a move, because they are afraid of what the appointing authority might do. We have reached a stage where all Ministries are run by the President. There is absolutely no Minister who is in charge of his Ministry today. That is why, in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, there is nobody to go around and check on potholes. They wait until our roads have collapsed and then they came to repair them because if you repair a pothole, the kick-back is not as good as recarpeting a whole road. So, we need to have a Cabinet that is operational; where Ministers have powers to go and make their Ministries effective. We want to have a Minister for Transport and Communications who can wake up one morning and appoint the directors of the Kenya Communications Commission rather than waiting for the President to do that because the Act says clearly that the responsibility lies with the Minister. We need a Minister for Environmental Conservation who will rise one morning and declare that all cars which are between 25 and 35 years old should be off our roads rather than wait until we are dead of lung cancer and other related diseases resulting from inhaling polluted air.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute.

**The Member for Makueni** (Mr. Maundu): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make my maiden speech.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful for having come back to this House after a one-year stay out there. Of course, that gave me an opportunity to look at Parliament a little more objectively, and the participation of hon. Members from a different perspective. I take this early opportunity to thank Makueni constituents for re-electing me to this House to represent their interests. I thank those who are my personal friends and who participated in the last election to make sure that I won the election to come to this House. I also thank those hon. Members who are my friends, on both sides of this House, who very actively campaigned for me without taking into account their party affiliations, or other considerations that they considered inconsequential. Of course, the Makueni by-election was controversial in its own way, but the challenge of that election was that hon. Members were able to look at issues from a different perspective. People realised, for the first time, that in a special way, in Makueni Constituency, hon. Members should not be elected merely on the basis of party euphoria or the dominance of a party in a region, but it should be because people want to choose a leader who can represent their interests in this House without being tied too much by party considerations.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many people got scared because some imagined that there were certain directives that people were not supposed to be seen in Makueni Constituency because it was a no-go area, more particularly if they were coming to support me. Those who abstained from coming to campaign for me did me a favour because, perhaps, their coming would have compounded matters for me.

*(Applause)*

I am grateful to everybody who supported or failed to support me because at the end of the day, that is why I am in this House. I would like to give my special thanks to four hon. Members who are my friends. They are hon. Tony Ndilinge, hon. Col. Kiluta, hon. Khaniri and many other well-wishers who, physically or otherwise, were in Makueni Constituency to campaign for me.

**Mr. Kombo:** Do not forget me!

**The Member for Makueni** (Mr. Maundu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have remembered good wishes from my friend, hon. Kombo, who is the Chairman of the Select Committee on Anti-Corruption. He has already co-opted me as a member so that I can work with him. I am grateful for the support I received from the ordinary people in Makueni.

In the last Parliament, there were quite a number of matters that we pursued. I am happy that when I first stepped in this Eighth Parliament, the speeches that were given by His Excellency the President and Mr. Speaker gave me hope that I have come to a more renewed House, unlike the past Parliament. There is hope that this Parliament will start growing teeth and it will bite. Towards the next millennium, this Parliament will most likely be capable of changing the position and status of most Kenyans. There are a number of issues that His Excellency the President raised in his Address, and I would not like to dismiss them. What the President did was to give us an analysis of events that should be tackled in this Session of Parliament. If we properly address these problems raised by the President, we are capable of delivering Kenyans to a new dispensation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was a little worried when the Leader of the Official Opposition, the most respected hon. Kibaki, tended to indicate that Kenya was sinking into hell and a bottomless pit. That is untrue. I do agree that we are not in a paradise in this country. We are a nation struggling and grappling to tackle complicated and technical issues. But I believe that we are capable, as Parliament, to make sure that Kenyans get the best out of us. What most of us lack is commitment to national issues. Most of our politicians are tied to their tribal inclinations. A bigger tribe feels that it has a capacity to dominate this country while a smaller tribe feels threatened and, therefore, it must gang up with another smaller tribe or a bigger brother so that they intimidate the bigger tribes. We must all agree that this nation belongs to Kenyans and all of us here have a message to Kenyans. Those who cannot deliver to Kenyans, I can assure them, are unlikely to get to the next millennium. When Moses was being shown Canaan, those who were incapable of delivering did not see Canaan itself.

As we await for the next millennium, we should be able to get to it by doing something for Kenyans. I believe that when the President talked about his legacy of a united Kenya and of Kenyans working together, he talked about Kenyans rising above their petty political differences so that they may unite and build a country for all. That is why I am not so much in favour of majimbo, neither am I in favour of tribes ganging up to form alliances so that they threaten other Kenyans. I am for the co-operation of communities so that the President rises above tribal tentacles and inclinations. I am sure that when the Vice- President was appointed, many of our brothers in this House were disappointed. But they should not be disappointed because I was also a contender for that seat and I was not appointed.

*(Applause)*

The person who got the opportunity should now be encouraged and supported so that he looks forward to a better Kenya. Every opportunity is God-sent and we are privileged, as hon. Members, to be here. I was not in this House for a year although I had wanted to be here with my friends. When God came on earth, I was brought back to the House. So, these opportunities cannot come on a silver platter. We must work for them, be diligent and committed to ourselves.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of constitutional review process is a matter that has been discussed by this House. With respect, the House, over the period, has grappled with a very complex issue. As an objective observer, while out there, I saw the difficulties that the House was going through. But the issue of constitutional review process is being complicated more by party affiliations. People are sticking too much to their parties and looking at their party interests in this House rather than the interests of Kenyans. We are also being governed by tribal positioning and totally inclined to party affiliations. I would like to congratulate my party, KANU, because we have done a good thing by surrendering one seat, so that others may take that benefit. We should not put an extra angle on anybody so that what we give, we should accept others to take and we should not put other angles by saying the DP or the NDP should surrender other seats. Let us not have people who are putting angles along the way so that this constitutional review process does not succeed. We are aware that there are parties that do not want it. This is because, according to them, this is one way of having the President leave office. The issue here is not whether Moi is the President now or tomorrow; the issue here is about governance; that this country gets the best leader who can deliver for them any time. I do not mind whether the President of this country comes

from the smallest tribe or is another Kalenjin, so long as he is a man who can serve this country with dedication. We should not mind if the President of Kenya is a Kikuyu, if he is capable of rising above his tribe and giving Kenyans the best that they expect of him. Let us concentrate on the constitutional review process with the seriousness that it deserves. If we are not serious with this constitutional review process, then we will have let Kenyans down.

I must say here that Kenyans no longer respect elections. The hopes of every Kenyan are pegged in the manner in which we are going to handle the constitutional review process, because that is what is going to give them a new dimension towards the next millennium. So, we should commit ourselves to the constitutional review process. We should talk as much as we can and have close KANU-Opposition talks, so that this process will live up to the expectations of Kenyans.

With those remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

**Mr. Obwocha:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make contributions to this Motion.

As my colleagues have said, I also find it difficult to comment on the exposition of public policy as outlined in His Excellency's Speech, because there is none. I want to congratulate the Chair for the very eloquent speech which he gave; for the manner in which he gave his remarks, and I wish to associate myself with him. Parliament must be independent and it must be strengthened. In the last Parliament, I had a chance to go to other countries, for instance, Canada, the UK, Australia and New Zealand, with another group from here when we were looking at the Standing Orders. In all these Parliaments, a Parliamentary Service Commission has been established. I was very impressed when the Chair said that this would be a good idea, and I hope the Government will take up the challenge and take up this issue. Recently, hon. Kombo, hon. Mkalla, hon. Gitonga and I had an opportunity to be in Uganda where it was resolved by Parliamentarians in Africa that until and unless you remunerate Members of Parliament properly, there is no way you can reduce corruption. Members of Parliament need to be remunerated properly. On the paltry money we get here, a salary of Kshs10,000 plus a few other allowances, all adding up to Kshs80,000, I get people out there saying this is a lot of money. In fact, one of the local dailies said that we are paid Kshs3,000 a day as sitting allowance and yet we are paid only Kshs100 a day for each of the 30 days, amounting to Kshs3,000 in one month, and everybody knows this.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the new Managing Director of Kenya Airports Authority, Mr. Mureithi, a retired man, is being paid Kshs1 million as salary together with allowances. I have evidence here from the Board, which states the terms and conditions of the serving Managing Director:-

Basic Salary	-	Kshs250,000
House Allowance-		Kshs120,000
Responsibility Allowance	-	Kshs150,000
Car Allowance	-	Kshs140,000
Security and Alarm	-	Kshs 30,000
Gardener/Cook	-	Kshs 24,000
Utilities	-	Kshs 70,000
Entertainment	-	Kshs 20,000
Leave Allowance -		Kshs 93,000

Medical -The Managing Director should be provided with a Gold AAR Card to cover himself, wife and four children of under 18 years or 22 years, if school-going incorporating Kshs120,000.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this man gets Kshs1 million while a Member of Parliament gets Kshs80,000 and people are making noise. And this money cannot even make us reach our constituencies! This is the same Authority that has gone ahead to defraud the people of Kenya of Kshs2.6 billion in a project they call refurbishment of JKIA Airport. If we built the Eldoret Airport at a cost of Kshs2.6 billion, how can we refurbish an existing Airport at a cost of Kshs2.6 billion, again? The Kenya Airports Authority had to suspend 15 projects amounting to Kshs650 million so that somebody could "eat". This thing is the brainchild of the operatives at State House. This must stop. Kenyans can no longer afford this kind of waste of public funds.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this economy has been destroyed by these same people. We know that from 1991, a scheme called Goldenberg was hatched. Kamlesh Pattni wrote to the Treasury, saying that he wanted to export fictitious gold and diamonds, and it was approved by the then Minister for Finance who is now the Vice President, surprisingly. I tabled those documents in 1993 where he said "Scheme approved, save for monopoly." You know the effects of what happened from that time up to now. The economy is in doldrums and we cannot recover. The Goldenberg case has not even started. The amount of money that was stolen---There is the Kshs5.8

billion case which is in court. This amount of money was contained in three letters which were written from the Treasury; the Kshs13.5 billion case which has not even started, and then there is 20 per cent which was allowed by the Act, plus the 15 per cent which the Minister approved. That is a total of over Kshs60 billion. And then the President, a man whom everybody respects; the Head of Government, goes to a roadside and announces a constitutional office and he tells Kenyans he wanted to see whether the appointment would increase the number of sufurias of ugali in their houses! Surely, that is contempt for the people of Kenya. The President must apologise to Kenyans. We are not that cheap!

**The Vice-President and Minister for Planning and National Development** (Prof. Saitoti): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. We are in the august House and we have to confine ourselves to the Standing Orders. We are debating the policy statement by the President. But we are not allowed to discuss the President's conduct save through a substantive Motion. It is in the Standing Orders, and I am sure the hon. Member knows that.

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about the manner in which the President is conducting his affairs. That is part of what he said and I am not happy about it.

On the constitutional review process which has stalled, what is the basic fundamental reason why it has stalled? It has stalled because President Moi has not come out to tell Kenyans: "I will not carry on after the year 2,002. If he categorically said that, there is no way we can wrangle about this because we would know that, that issue has been sorted out.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Maj. Madoka): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the hon. Member is misleading this House. The President did, in fact, say that he will not continue after the year 2,002.

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope this Major learnt some English in the Army. [**Mr. Obwocha**]

I said he was not categorical!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, hon. Obwocha! There is absolutely no need to be insulting to one another. Hon. Obwocha, the President made the announcement of the appointment of the Vice-President in Kenya; it does not matter where. You are also being disrespectful to the people whom he addressed, because they are also Kenyans.

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have made my point. We are saying that if the President wants us to be respectful to him, he should be respectful to Kenyans.

Finally, I would like to say that on the current debate about what is happening in Kisii, I would like to be associated with people who are honest and straightforward. Some of the conmen who are misleading the President-- Like this man they call Sam Nyamweya, who was given money on behalf of Shabana Football Club. The letter which he wrote is here; that he encloses a cheque of Kshs300,000 from AFC Leopards to Shabana in respect of their former coach. Then, he gave a personal cheque of Kshs300,000 which bounced. Up to now, since last year, this conman has not given that club the money. He has the other fellows who are in the corridors of State House misleading other people. They think Kenyans do not know what is happening in this country. They do not know that Kenyans, and particularly the Kisii community, know what is happening. Do they think we are deaf? Do they think we are blind? We know what is happening in this country.

**Mrs. Sinyo:** On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to urge the hon. Member who is on the Floor to refrain from using these words. This is because it does not mean that the people who are deaf or blind do not have common sense.

**Mr. Obwocha:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir---

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order! Your time is up! Let us hear Dr. Wamukoya.

**The Assistant Minister for Agriculture** (Dr. Wamukoya): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to make some comments on the Presidential Speech. First of all, I would like to disagree with those who are saying that the Presidential Speech did not contain any gist. The President talked about unemployment, hunger, malnutrition, insecurity, constitutional review and corruption. All these points are very important to the communities in Kenya. What the President tried to emphasise was that everybody, including Members of Parliament, must make an effort to help improve or eradicate some of these problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we saw unemployment coming in the early 1990s, when some Members in this House, at that time, supported the IMF and the World Bank on the question of retrenchment, and the question of not employing people graduating from universities and training institutions. There was heavy support from here, and some of us who were outside were wondering what our Members of Parliament were up to, in supporting the World Bank against their own people. Because of retrenchment and the golden handshake of as little as

Kshs300,000, our people went out there and within a very short time, the money was finished. They then became unemployed. This, together with not employing people coming out of institutions, put us in a very complicated situation.

*[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]*

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

We must make an effort to change this situation. The people who are out there, unemployed, have got families. If they have got families and they are not employed, it means that their families are hungry and there is malnutrition. This has constituted what we call poverty. That is why we are being told that the poverty level has risen from the original 40 per cent to almost 70 per cent. What we should be talking about now is how to change the trend. I believe that if we focus ourselves on various ways and methods of alleviating these problems, we can do it.

There are three areas which I have in mind, which we should look at, as we endeavour to try to improve our living standards in this country. One of them is agriculture, and the other one is industrialisation. In agriculture, which we say is the mainstay of our economy, has been neglected. In the name of liberalisation, we have thrown everything to the farmers. The farmers were not ready to undertake some of these things that we left them to do. So, in areas with cash crops like tea, sugar-cane and coffee, which used to be self-sufficient, poverty is rampant. Just come to Mumias and you will see what is happening to the farmers there. For many decades, those people were assured of their livelihood. They were making money from their farming activities, but, now, they have been reduced to poverty and have become beggars. When I go home, it is filled with people asking for money for school fees and hospital bills. The situation is not different from the tea and coffee growing areas. We can say the same thing for the pastoralists. Sometime ago, when those people had a Livestock Marketing Division, they used to make money for themselves. But, now, the situation is terrible.

**Dr. Kituyi:** On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. While I very much appreciate what the hon. Member is saying--- In fact, I am very positively impressed, because most Luhya members of Government are sycophants; they do not talk about things as they exist. However, does he remember that he is the Assistant Minister for Agriculture? When he is talking about agriculture being neglected, is he speaking as the Assistant Minister in that Ministry?

**The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Dr. Wamukoya):** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, apart from being an Assistant Minister for Agriculture, I am also a representative of people who are involved in agricultural activities, and I must speak for them.

I believe that we must re-orientate ourselves in agriculture and emphasize irrigation. I know that a Motion will be brought to this House by hon. Nyagah on agricultural activities in this country. I believe that hon. Members of this House will discuss it very thoroughly, to make sure that when we talk about agricultural development in this country, we include irrigation as part of the activities that we are going to be involved in.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention a few things about insecurity in this country. Insecurity is found everywhere in this country. The other day, I was reading in the newspapers, when I left home on Sunday, that in Shibale area, thugs went there and burned kiosks after stealing. So, when the President talks about insecurity in this country, it is a very worrying situation and something must be done to change this. I can assure you, in my little knowledge about what is going on, that the unemployment that is rampant in this country constitutes reasons for insecurity. I believe if we can improve employment in this country, then many people will be engaged in various activities and insecurity will not be there. We also should look at our retired policemen. There are some people who left the force and I think they still have uniforms - I do not know where they have acquired the guns from - and they may be responsible for some of the things that are taking place in this country. Some of those robberies are done in a very professional way, which cannot just be carried out by ordinary people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on corruption, which the President mentioned, I would want to say one thing on it which particularly affects civil servants in Government Ministries. We have very many cases of revelations about people who have misappropriated State funds. The other day, we were reading in the newspapers about the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Unfortunately, some of those people mentioned in such cases go scot-free. When they go scot-free, they make those others who are afraid to misappropriate funds do so. So, we must make sure that those who are found to have misappropriated public funds are punished accordingly.



On the Constitutional Review Commission, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we were at Mbagathi last year, we were given several alternatives. One of the alternatives given by Prof. Ojwang' was that we look for five or seven distinguished lawyers in constitutional matters. Their work will be to look into the entire Constitution and tell us whether the patchwork is the one we will deal with, or the whole Constitution should be overhauled. It is only after that, that we can look for other people to go out there to collect and collate information and bring it back for analysis. Now, we have put ourselves in this situation where political partyism is pulling us backwards all the time, because KANU wants one thing while the Opposition wants a certain number of commissioners. Unless they get that, they will not move forward. I believe that alternative could be looked into in order for us to dislodge ourselves from those problems and move forward.

With those few remarks, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support. Thank you very much.

**Mr. Omino:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute to this debate. I will go straightaway to what I want to say. Firstly, if you look at the Presidential speech or the so-called exposition of public policy this year and last year, and the year before, you find that it is really a repetition of what we have been told all these years, except that every subsequent year, it gets worse. I want to tell you why. It is because that speech is a composite product of what the Ministers or Ministries contribute. But these Ministers have not the slightest idea of what came from their Ministries to be part of that Presidential speech. I want to agree with the colleague who said that, that is so because they do not work. Why do they not work? Because they have gotten into the mentality of only receiving instructions from the President and implementing them. But that is not how a Government with a ministerial system should be run. They must take responsibility. It is hopeless and meaningless for a Minister to come here and tell us that, now that the President has given an exposition, they will come and give us the details and yet we are suffering from a paucity of Sessional Papers which contain ministerial intentions. We do not have them because these Ministers do not work.

This Government has produced excellent policy statements, for example: African Socialism and its application to planning. There has never been an improvement on that document. But is it being applied or used as the policy to guide our planning? It is not. It was long abandoned. We have had, in the not too distant past, a policy on the provision of basic needs. That was abandoned even before the basic needs were provided. How do you eradicate poverty if you have not in fact provided those basic needs? Until and unless those basic needs are regarded as basic rights of Kenyans, there is no way we are going to eradicate, let alone on reduce, poverty in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we criticise this speech, it is not because we do not like the President. He is our President and that speech must be seen as a speech made on behalf of all Kenyans. When you go out - like I am going to do soon - I want people out there to tell me, "Yes, your President made a speech that is worth remembering." It is not a speech for the Government. It is a speech delivered on the occasion of State Opening of Parliament by Kenya's Head of State. I agree with hon. Anyona that contribution must be sought even from this side because we have an interest in the formulation of policies that will help to run this country efficiently.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President spoke of insecurity in this country. We have sat here with our arms folded, when our neighbours from whom insecurity emanates were collapsing. We sat here with our arms folded when Uganda was in chaos. Not only are they our neighbour, but one of our best markets. We have the armed forces here which critically are an extension of our foreign policy. But we did nothing to make sure that Uganda was stable. We sat here with our arms folded when Somalia collapsed. Now, we are saying that arms are coming from Somalia. You may not like that policy, but if, in fact, you know that your insecurity emanates from a neighbouring country, you do not wait for guns to come to Nairobi. You go and stop them at the border. What are our armed forces doing to secure this nation? This is because we pay large sums of money for their upkeep. For example, we have an army base in Wajir District. Why are our soldiers who are there not making sure that nobody crosses our border with Somalia or Ethiopia with arms? It is because these Ministers do not work.

*(Applause)*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we are serious, we must make sure that our markets are secure, and our markets are our immediate neighbours. Why are we forming a community, in fact, if what goes on in there does not concern us? We do not care when they collapse. That community will not be of any use to us unless we ensure that all our people are secure. If we need to use our armed forces to ensure that, let us do it. We should not be ashamed of it.

You cannot eradicate poverty by forming committees or setting up commissions, but you can do it by

formulating policies that are practical and implementable. You can also eradicate poverty by providing money for the implementation of those policies. If we now have an anti-corruption authority, an anti-poverty commission and the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Tribal Clashes, why do we have Ministries which are responsible for these portfolios? We should wind them up and send the Ministers home! Kenya cannot eradicate poverty by setting up commissions. We must provide funds to finance projects that put money into the pockets of our people. We should set aside some money to develop our infrastructure, so that farmers can access the market for their produce. This is because they cannot access them at the moment.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have talked about the stalemate in the Constitutional Review. Why is there a stalemate in merely nominating 13 Commissioners to the process? The simple reason for this is because some people fear and think that unless they are represented by a member of their tribe or political party, the new Constitution will come out like a huge monster that will deprive them of the wealth they have acquired, or positions of authority and responsibility which they have. I would like to say that even if the Constitutional Review Process consisted of Luo Commissioners only, there is no way it can produce a Constitution that will favour Luos. This is so because that new Constitution must come to this House for approval. Therefore, to say that the proposed Commissioners will produce a Constitution that will favour this or that sector, or this or that ethnic group, is tantamount to saying that this House is incapable of producing a document that will serve all Kenyans.

It has been said in this House that the economy of this country has collapsed, but it does not hurt to repeat it. This is so particularly in areas which do not grow cash crops, for example, tea and coffee. Because we have been such copycats, all that we did was to emphasise the growing of tea, coffee and rearing of dairy animals. I would like to say that the pastoralists in this country have a point. When I was young, I was taught agriculture in school. Why was I not taught pastoralism in school when I was young, and yet that is a form of livelihood of our people?

*(Applause)*

I support the pastoralists when they say that they want to be heard. Let pastoralism be taught in school so that all our children, whether they practice it or not, know it. This is because when we were being taught agriculture, some of our classmates did not know it because they only kept cattle.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks I wish to support the Motion on Presidential Address.

**Mr. Kirwa:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Motion on Presidential Address. The President touched four fundamental areas, such as corruption, insecurity, the Constitutional Review Process and eradication of poverty. I do not envisage that I will have the time to deal with all these aspects, but the most important thing, as far as this nation is concerned, is the issue of poverty eradication. This is so because it has spill-over effects to the other sectors. Insecurity emanates from the fact that some of our people have nothing to eat at the end of the day. When the President talked about eradication of poverty, I thought that he was trying to think of ways and means of providing some food for Kenyans on their tables, for those who have them. This would have made sense, if the Government was seriously to revamp the agricultural sector. For the last 20 years or so, the Government has been paying lip service to this sector. One could name every institution in this country that was working 20 years ago because such institutions were enriching our people. But today, you can no longer point at any institution in this particular sector that is still working. This is not because the country lacks manpower resource, but it is because of inability of people to think well.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, of particular interest to us at this particular time, is farm inputs. As I am talking here, a bag of fertilizer in Trans Nzoia District is going for Kshs1,800. Therefore, this translates to Kshs20,000 to till a one-acre piece of land, whose production capacity in that particular area is between 20 and 25 bags. The price of maize at this particular time is Kshs750. Therefore, if you get 20 bags of maize from a one-acre piece of land, you will end up getting Kshs15,000 after spending Kshs20,000.

We do not grow maize as flowers, but we grow it in order to earn a living or do business. For very good reasons, the Government has a scapegoat in the name of liberalisation. I do not understand what this is all about because the Government is quick to mention that prices of fertilizer are subject to the rules of supply and demand. When we wanted to look for a market, four months ago, for our maize in Tanzania, the Government had the audacity to say that we could not do that because there was a looming disaster. Why should the Government allow inflow of products, some which are sub-standard, into the country, when we do not allow our farmers to look for markets for their produce elsewhere?

Therefore, what measures are they going to put in place to eradicate poverty while agriculture, which

constitutes 30 per cent of our GDP, has been mismanaged for many years now? This is what has happened at Muhoroni, Sony, Mumias, KMC, KTDA, National Cereals and Produce Board. Twenty years ago, all these projects were working and they were making our people buy new vehicles every year. Now, the best they can buy is a mtumba and they must take a loan to do that. Trans Nzoia, which is supposed to be the granary of this particular nation, is ranked in the 23rd position among the districts that cannot get food. If you cannot get food in Trans Nzoia, where else can you get food and you still come to this House and say you want to eradicate poverty? This poverty was brought about by this particular Government. You cannot pretend now that you want to eradicate poverty. This reminds me of the clashes which were instigated by politicians. Some other politicians came and said they wanted to eradicate clashes. For how long are you going to tell Kenyans: "This is the right way", when you know very well that you are the cause of all these things?

Yesterday, many directors of KCC were arrested on flimsy grounds, and we do expect the Minister to tell us that this is part of economic sabotage, because they want to prove the prophesy of the President that KCC was doomed to fail. Therefore, anybody who is bringing any new initiative to that line must be taught by all means, including police harassment. I think it is high time we learn to have our own initiative instead of killing other people's babies. People in this Government have never learnt, not a single day, to start their own businesses. Right from the newspapers, they have to buy from other people. They also have to buy business from other people. In the Ministry of lands and Settlement, they even have to steal plots from other people. This is the problem that we have. We are urging them, though belatedly, to learn to invest and to be creative. This is where the problem is, and we cannot eradicate poverty if we are harassing everybody here and there.

I have just said that this Government really has nothing to show or to tell us that they are serious about the eradication of poverty. What I know is that they are just preparing a manifesto for the year 2002. They are making us think about 15 years from now while they have wasted the last 20 years. If you have not done anything in the last 20 years, what can you tell us that you are going to do for the next two years, before the next general election? Why do you not tell us straightaway that you still want to galvanise the support of the people for the next general election? Poverty eradication starts with agriculture and if you are doing nothing about agriculture, you are pretending about poverty eradication.

The question of insecurity does not touch Members of Parliament. I did hear the President mention the other day that Members of Parliament must talk to their constituents about peace. If policemen are harassing Members of Parliament where will you stand to tell them that there is need for peace? It takes just one man in this country, and that is the Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Forces, to say this nonsense must stop. The insecurity situation we have had in Trans Nzoia has nothing to do with Members of Parliament from Trans Nzoia or from Pokot. It has something to do with the laxity of the security forces of this country. You cannot tell Members of Parliament to preach peace if the attitude of the Government itself is not about peace. The attitude of the Government is about a one-party state, when we have more than 37 parties and they are still thinking of one party. This is the kind of nonsense--- We must tell Kenyans to stop thinking about one party when we have got more than 37 of them. This is where the problem lies. The moment you tell people there is still one party when we have so many parties, you are telling them that there is a problem. I do not want to dwell on that particular issue for so long.

When we come to this constitutional reform process we note the reluctance of KANU to give positions. It has nothing to do with the rest of us in KANU. It is a few people who feel they own the party. These are the people who are bringing problems to this nation, because they have forgotten that the civilians have been cheated for long. It is high time they realised that this is going to stop, because when people are poor, you can no longer control them. It is very hard to control somebody who has nothing, because he has got nothing to lose at the end of the day. You have made them poor and, therefore, it is going to be impossible for you to control them in the next general elections.

**Mr. Kombo:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make a few comments. I will start on a light note and say that we, on this side, are happy to see that there is a Vice-President, because now we know that we have a known opponent for the year 2002. It makes politics, at least, more interesting when you know who your opponent is. For the Government side, they also now have an idea who is going to lead them in the mission impossible in the year 2002. Coming to the Presidential Speech, like everybody else, I also find it very difficult to see anything new other than the rhetoric. It is really long on the rhetoric but short on the substance. If we take just agriculture, the subject that hon. Kirwa has dwelt on at length, you can see that in the Speech there was no politics articulated that would put agriculture where it should be. Eighty per cent of people in this country depend on agriculture. The policies of this Government are based on politics that worry about the 20 per cent and not the 80 per cent of Kenyans.

Many people have talked about the fertilizer. At the moment, we are planting plain. The prices of

fertilizers have jumped from Kshs1,100 per bag of 50 kilograms, to Kshs1,800. Where will the small farmer find that kind of money to buy a bag of fertilizer. Those prices seem to be changing on a daily basis, and sometimes on an hourly basis. Farmers were told that as soon as Meir Limited brings in fertilizer, prices will stabilise. But the crooked traders colluded and bought all the fertilizers that Meir Limited was bringing in so that they could be able to control prices and keep the price of fertilizer at Kshs1,800. In Bungoma, we plant the 614 seed variety but we cannot find that too. We are told we should plant the 627 variety which is the Katumani type of seed that is good in the dry areas and not in a place where there is plenty of rain. What happens is that as soon as the crop comes on, it opens at the top and once the rain drops in, the maize rots and you cannot harvest anything. This is why I say that if the Presidential Speech was meant to articulate policies that will help this country, I agree with other speakers that it should have addressed agriculture clearly.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the policies of the country make one to ask pertinent questions like: Does this Government ever hear the cries of the farmers because they have been crying for a long time? Does this Government see poverty in the rural areas, where 80 per cent of the people live? Does this Government ever see the hungry people in the rural areas where the majority of the people live? I think this Government does not see at all. It does not! It is a Government that is not prepared to reason. It neither cares nor feels at all for Kenyans. If it was reasoning, caring, or a Government with feelings, then the Presidential Speech would have been different.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President did mention about a new economic era. A new economic era! We do not know whether to laugh or to cry because if we are talking about a new economic era, there are plenty of factors that one has to think about. Good governance, for example; does it exist within the Government? As regards infrastructure, the roads are gone. Credit to the farmers and businessmen--- Yesterday, we were crying about the banks; the interest rates are still high. What business are we going to do if we cannot access credit?

On security, people are still living in fear. In Webuye, my own constituency, people have to go behind doors and lock themselves up as soon as darkness sets in because of insecurity. In that area, the police station in Webuye does not have a vehicle. When you are being attacked, there is no point of calling the police because they will not arrive as they have no vehicle. They have to rely on matatus and then the Government talks about a new economic era. How will the economy take off if all these problems do exist? Even the political will to deal with problems like those of corruption does not exist in this Government. Until we have that political will, the economy cannot take off.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, many people have talked about the Constitution, and I also want to say that it is important that the process must continue. For me, it is important that we have a new Constitution, giving us a new order that will get rid of the "big man syndrome" in this country. Our present Constitution, by giving so much powers to the Presidency, has created this "big-man syndrome". And it is this big-man syndrome that is the source of corruption in this country, because the Presidency owns everything. It owns the economy, the police, the Judiciary and the entire lot, so that when you want to deal with corruption, it is not possible. The Constitutional Review Process must continue and it must not be prevented by a few people.

I understand that the Vice-President and other people are willing to see the Constitutional Review Process continue, but the Secretary-General of KANU is not interested in seeing the process continue. I think the Vice-President talked of dialogue in his tenure. Let him first start dialogue on his side and ask his Secretary-General to make sure that he allows the Constitutional Review Process to continue. We need to do it now while the Presidency is at the sunset, because then it is much easier. I think if we allow a new presidency - a "sun-rise" presidency - with these powers in the present Constitution, they will want to fight, to make sure that they also use those old powers, and they will not be very happy to see the changes. That is why the process should continue now for the good of the country.

It is on that note that I also want to thank the Chair for the eloquent speech, which really showed us that changes, even in Parliament, should take place now; that we should have Parliament de-linked from the big-man syndrome now. We do not want to wait for the Constitutional Review Process to de-link Parliament from this big-man syndrome that I have been talking about.

So, on that note, I find it difficult to support the Motion because I did not see anything, or any policies, articulated that would help this country in any manner, whatsoever.

Thank you. Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Assistant Minister for Water Resources** (Mr. Chanzu): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute on the Presidential Speech during the State Opening of the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament, on 6th April, 1999. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the President for the manner he presented the Speech and the content of the Speech. The Speech was meant to be a guideline or a pacesetter for all Kenyans at large, and for this august House. I also want to take this opportunity to

thank the President for having cleared what had been taking a lot of our time by filling the vacant post of the Vice-President. At least, since the time this appointment was made, we have seen very little of the negative reports that we were seeing in the Press and all over the country. I also want to take the opportunity to congratulate Prof. George Saitoti for his re-appointment as the Vice-President.

As I said, the Presidential Speech was meant to be a pacesetter and in this regard, I expect Members of this House to take seriously what was outlined in the Speech and deliberate on it in various forums, and come up with suggestions on how we can solve the problems facing the country. The problems facing this country are not as a result of one factor alone. This is a young country, which is growing, and the population itself is a problem to us as a nation. These are aspects that we all need to address. Apart from what we are supposed to do ourselves as Members of Parliament, the Ministries and Ministers have a big role to play. If we have to talk about what has been discussed here, about the agricultural sector, I think we must come up with policies that give incentives to the farmers, so that they can produce what can feed the nation and what can be exported, because we rely mainly on the agricultural sector.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not endowed with minerals or something like that, but we mainly rely on the agricultural sector. So, there must be enough that we can produce for our use locally and for export, in order to earn revenue out of this.

Sir, we also heard about poverty. The population growth, as I said, we need to plan for it, because the more the numbers that we produce, the less that there is available for these numbers. We must plan for the numbers, and equally, the same for unemployment. We now have the Ministry of Industrial Development. We have got sectors like the Jua Kali which were set up to assist in this aspect. I would like to urge the respective or the relevant Ministries to go into details in this aspect of the Jua Kali and the industrial development because, if we are to achieve industrialisation by the year 2020, as has been set for us, then these two sectors must be seen to be working, and not just to be there; they must also be seen to be working.

These problems are also compounded by the poor infrastructure; poor roads and other communication facilities. When we come to this House, like on Wednesday at 9.00 o'clock, if one has got a phone call to make out of Nairobi, it is impossible. One has to wait until much later. Sometimes one cannot even pass the message. So, these communication facilities, the relevant Ministries or departments must pull up their socks and look into these.

In the water sector, there is a Paper which I have seen, and I think it is going to give us guidelines on what is going to happen. The energy sector, if we have to industrialise, must also be looked into seriously. There are donors who are willing to help, but for them to help, we need to show a lot of transparency and accountability in this sector.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was the issue of corruption. I find corruption very vicious because unless all of us make a deliberate effort to eradicate the vice, it will be with us. Corruption does not only mean the large-scale; there is corruption of every magnitude, for example, the police on the roads. Sometimes when they allow vehicles to pass--- In the road tolls which were there, there was a lot of corruption in that area and there was overloading of vehicles and hence, the damage on our roads. So, it is an aspect which I think requires a deliberate effort by all of us because it involves those who receive and those who give. For us to achieve this, we must look at the unity of all of us because when we get divided, maybe, on tribal or ethnic lines, then we cannot come together to be able to address all these issues.

Sir, on the issue of cost-sharing in education and health sector--- I want to take this opportunity to thank the Minister for Health. I talked about Vihiga District Hospital some time back and during the Recess, the Minister had the opportunity to visit the proposed hospital at Vihiga. The hospital has got all the equipment that is required, but it requires just a little money and a few loose ends to be tied up in order for the hospital to be functional. We are hoping that the Minister is working on the assessment he made with his staff, so that we can have the hospital in use, for it to benefit the people in that area.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the Speech the President made, he mentioned about adequate funding being put in place for security aspects. That is a good move and it now remains for the Ministry or the relevant authority to make sure that this is implemented effectively.

On the Constitutional Review Process, we have the IPPC which was put in place to be able to plan and resolve any time the stalemate which we would encounter in this process. I do not know what the IPPC is doing. If we have to proceed well on this one, all we are giving should be unconditional so that everybody is free to contribute. The review we are going to come up with is the views of the people on the ground; the local wananchi. They are the ones who are going to matter because that is the direction we are heading to. So, I do not see the reason why we should be having a tug of war at the top.

Sir, another aspect which is of a lot of concern is the banking sector. Although a lot was said yesterday

here by the Minister and the Members who contributed on that, already it is bringing a problem. There is a belief in this country that when there is a problem, the leader is the one who can solve it. When we have a problem of minimum balances of Kshs10,000, as I have seen Barclays Bank is going to introduce with effect from 1st of June, it means the people who are earning up to Kshs10,000 or just around there will have to keep Kshs10,000 lying idle in the banks, which is not good for a developing country like this one, where the salaries and incomes are low. So, I also urge the Minister to look into this aspect.

With those few remarks, I support the Speech.

**Eng. Muriuki:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to contribute to this important Motion. Some of the points raised by His Excellency the President are good, but very difficult to implement. He mentioned about the Constitutional Review and called on the people involved - the leaders who include ourselves and others - to iron out whatever little differences there are, and get the constitutional debate moving. However, a lot of goodwill is needed.

Sir, the biggest problem we have, and where the wananchi are looking at what the leaders are doing, starting with the President himself, is the so-called "eradication of poverty". I do not know whether it is a mistake of the language, but there is no way we are going to eradicate poverty in this country. We can talk about reducing it, but eradicating poverty-- I find saying that in 15 years' time from now, some magic will be found through which we will have poverty eradicated, does not make sense to Kenyans. Since Independence, we have been having the so-called "development plans". We have five-year development plans, four-year development plans and I am sure even now, we are inside the length of one development plan. Are we now saying that we are unable to handle our affairs a little at a time, and we have now found some magical trick through which we will just wait until 15 years from now and poverty will go? For us to think of eradicating poverty, we must, first and foremost, focus on the rural areas where 80 per cent of our people live, with only 20 per cent in the towns. I will give the example of the infrastructure which has been a major problem in this country, because farmers are not able to get their produce out of their farms, or get fertilizer into their farms. We would like our roads in the rural areas improved. For example, in Nyandarua District, we have 5,000 kilometres of road network, and only 150 kilometres are passable during the rainy season. Every time we want to put culverts or hard core on the roads, we are told that the Ministry of Public Works and Housing's grader does not have diesel, and so we have to contribute. We have to do Harambee in order to do public roads in the rural areas. Conversely, we have Parliament Road nicely tarmacked. I am not aware that Parliamentarians did a Harambee in order for the Parliament Road to be tarmacked. Whereas, in the rural areas, to get a few lorries of hard core, wananchi have to contribute money in the name of Harambee.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as concerns the health sector, in the urban areas we have no major problems, because there are hospitals and other health facilities. But in the rural areas, we are asked to form ourselves into self-help groups and contribute money through Harambee in order to get the health facilities in place. Even the donors are only pouring money into the urban centres. For example, we have been told that the World Bank has given the Government Kshs3.7 billion for the repair of roads in the urban centres and other trunk roads connecting Nairobi and other towns. Only 20 per cent of the people of this country are being served by those roads targeted by the donors. But when it comes to repayment, the money is got from the coffee and tea farmers. So, the plans that are being made are not addressing 80 per cent of our population who, not only contribute to Kenya's foreign exchange earnings through their farming, but also send hon. Members to Parliament through the vote. So, I am calling upon hon. Members to remember the people who sent them here.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, even when it comes to the Budget, half of the development budget - however little it is - should be allocated in accordance with the constituencies, so that the elected hon. Members are made directly responsible for the development of the areas of the people who brought them here. If every hon. Member here, whether in KANU or the Opposition is given a small amount of the development budget for his constituency, he or she, would be answerable directly to the people who elected him or her to Parliament. We would be able to come back here and do a post-mortem of how well the budget performed. If we continue allocating the money to the urban areas, we are just wasting our time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to comment a little bit on the banks. Barclays Bank and Standard Chartered Bank management have said they want a minimum balance of Kshs10,000 and Kshs5,000 on savings accounts respectively. These banks are now getting naughty after having gotten rich from the deposits of Kenyans. As Kenyan leaders, I think we have confused the meaning of liberalization. What do we mean by saying that we are liberalizing the banking sector, while we know very well that these people are getting the money from our own people? After they have milked our people dry for five to 10 years, they are now telling us that the industry is liberalized.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently, we had a train accident in which over 30 people died;

many others injured, and some of them maimed for life. We are told that because the transport sector is liberalized, Kenya Railways Corporation is free to put 600 people in a train which is not insured. Those people have nobody to run to, yet we are told that because the industry is liberalized, they are at liberty not to even have insurance cover. It is time the Minister for Transport and Communications brought a Motion in this Parliament to make some rules under which the train and other transport services can operate. If by liberalizing the banking sector and the railway transport sector means that they can do what they want, then why are we telling matatu operators to conform to some rules? Even the matatu industry should be left to operate on its own.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we used to have the Matatu Vehicle Owners Association (MVOA), which was disbanded way back in 1986. So, since 1986, the Government has left the matatus to operate on their own. The matatu owners have also left the whole business to the touts. Since 1986, the only people with experience are the matatu touts. So, if the Minister for Transport and Communications wishes to make any rules regarding the running of the matatus, he is obliged to get some views from a committee of touts, so that he can be taught what has been happening for the last 13 years since the Government left the industry to run on its own, and the owners left it to the touts.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me go back a little bit to the banking sector. In 1993, we were told that there was too much liquidity in this country, and for that reason we should mop up that liquidity. This meant, for example, if I had Kshs1 million, I would go and buy Treasury Bills which would pay me an interest of 70 per cent, so that at the end of the year, the liquidity which I had, which was Kshs1 million, was no longer Kshs1 million, but Kshs1.7 million. In my view, I think the liquidity was just made worse. At that time, banks were the only ones that had money to buy the Treasury Bills; the same Barclays Bank and Standard Chartered Bank. Because the Government did not have money to be able to pay the 70 per cent interest, which was for the purpose of mopping up the excess liquidity, all they did was to borrow. That is how we have ended up with a Kshs160 billion local debt for something which the Government or we, ourselves, as leaders in Parliament, cannot be able to show wananchi what we did with it. The liquidity stood at Kshs82 billion, but we are now paying over Kshs40 billion every year in order to service those debts.

With those few words, thank you.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to contribute to the Presidential Address, which I think did clearly state some of the Government policies and also set out various items as agenda for discussion by this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is sad to note that some Members in the Opposition described the speech as inconsequential. It is a wonderful position to be in the Opposition because you can just criticise without coming out with any possible solutions. It hardly needs some intelligence to stand up and criticise. We need people to come up with plans and programmes which will help sort out the various problems which afflict this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Presidential Address was very clear. He spoke of poverty alleviation; a programme to alleviate poverty, not eradication. This is because the Government is being realistic. To say that we are going to eradicate poverty may be misleading. The Presidential Address goes further to say that we will bring this poverty alleviation plan to this House so that Members are free to contribute and give their input. Certain Members said that we need to bring issues to this House, so that Members can contribute. The Presidential Address did say that we will bring a poverty alleviation plan to this House, so that every Member can contribute. This, in fact, underscores the supremacy of this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the President also, in his address, spoke about corruption, he went further to state that we have now established the Anti-Corruption Authority which was established by this House, showing that the President or Government is prepared to follow and respect the decisions made by this House.

**An hon. Member:** Where is Mwau?

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Maj. Madoka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have various things which need to be corrected, and I believe with this corruption, all of us have to take the matter seriously. As I speak now, I am very worried because I do not know what I will tell my constituents, because the Government has good policies, but we have individuals within the system who are corrupt and who mislead or give the Government a bad name. In my own area, we went out to tender; a contract was awarded for the road between Mwatate and Taveta to be gravelled. Now, I understand the contractor who was awarded this contract was paid close to Kshs1.2 billion and yet he has not done any work. I am worried. As I said, we had told our constituents that the road was going to be gravelled. Now, if he was paid Kshs1.2 billion, in fact, that road would not only have been gravelled, but also tarmacked. It is the individuals who are giving the Government a bad name. It is criminal for these people to do this and they should be prosecuted.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Presidential Address touched on the question of insecurity. I

know we are all worried about insecurity. In the Address, the President identified the source of insecurity as most of these illegal arms coming into the country. I was disappointed by the hon. Member for Kisumu, Mr. Joab Omino. He said that the Government should be able to stop the arms coming through the border. When you are smuggling arms into any area, you do not obviously use the official entry points. The army is not large enough for us to say that we will put a soldier along the border around the country. All I would like to assure this House is that we do our best and have patrols along the borders to try and stop any of these illegal arms or illegal immigrants into this country. The Government does try, and I think it is fair that Members should realise this and give us every possible support. We need a lot of support from every citizen of this country. You will agree that of late, as a result of the Government improving on the transportation and communication of the police, we have had very good responses by the police in dealing with crime. We call upon Members to continue helping police in terms of giving information. I was disappointed yesterday by the hon. Member for Kangema, Mr. Michuki. He said that they know criminals; they know the killers and yet, these killers are not being arrested. I challenge hon. Michuki, if he is a good citizen, to go and get the OCPD and show him these criminals and we will arrest them. If he is scared to do so, as I suspect he is, I ask him to come and get me and we will go together and arrest those criminals. We must lead by example. Security will continue to be a problem. It would be foolhardy on our part to say that we will completely guarantee security. We will continue to maintain security in this country, but we cannot say that we will completely guarantee security. It is our wish, but, obviously, we have to be realistic.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans have to appreciate that with the increased population, this has put a lot of pressure on the resources in this country and those resources, too, which we can generate. As a result, we have had a lot of unemployment and, hence, we have had various vices which are bad for this country. Because of unemployment, we are getting people taking up jobs which they really do not want to do, but they are taking the jobs for the sake of it. This has contributed to a lot of inefficiencies or mishandling of various jobs given to these individuals. A person becomes a nurse because he or she is just looking for a job. As a result, they do not have that human heart to be able to attend to these patients properly. Equally, we have a problem also in the police. We are recruiting youngsters of between the ages of 18 and 25 straight from school. These individuals have not had the experience to enable them to handle the public. Recently, I travelled out of this country and I learnt that many of the people being recruited into the police in that country are people who have been teachers, have worked in the private sector and yet, they come back to the police to be able to perform the duties of a policeman. Now, when we get people like that, they are experienced in handling serious matters because they have that human touch. We may have to consider also introducing a system here where we will try and invite people who have worked in some other sectors to join the police instead of taking these youngsters who have no experience at all.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, everywhere, we will continue to call for the change of the attitude by members of the public sector. The problem in this country is that people are not truly committed to the jobs they are doing. If all of us were truly committed, maybe, we would see a change in the things happening in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I conclude, I would like to say something about the Constitutional Review Commission. I agree with Members that the stalemate has come about as a result of mistrust. I think, from the very beginning, we made a false start by taking the constitutional review process outside this House. I think to jump-start this process, the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission Act should be brought back to this House, so that we make amendments and allow this House to really take over the review process. I think what is important is making sure that the stakeholders, whether it is the civil society, the churches or the women groups, are given opportunities to air their views to the Commissioners. I think once that is done, we will then be able to write a Constitution which will be acceptable to all members of the communities.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish now to say that I support the Presidential Address. Thank you.

**Mrs. Sinyo:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to support the Presidential Address. First and foremost, I would like to thank the Chair for its speech, which called for real democracy and autonomy of Parliament. Also, I would like to thank the President from the depth of my heart for having taken the trouble to appoint me as the voice of people with disabilities in this House. We, the disabled people of Kenya, consider this step a show of real maturity of our Government, and I would like to request all the Ministers to emulate the President's example. When my name was forwarded to the President for nomination, there was a two-week-long spell of uncertainty, not knowing whether I would be appointed or not. We feared that the Constitution would be used against me, but the President went ahead and appointed me an Member of Parliament.

I would like to contribute my ideas to the National Poverty Alleviation Programme, which was highlighted in the President's Address. The Address was quite refined, but I and the people I associate with have a



big concern on the issue of poverty alleviation. We have noted that the National Poverty Alleviation Commission, which was set up recently by the President, has left out people with disabilities. Now, how will our issues be addressed? So, while I support what the President has said, I would like to appeal to the Office of the President that as it brings the National Poverty Alleviation Programme document to the House for adoption, it identifies the target groups and addresses their concerns.

Now that we have a Vice-President, I would like him to take word to the President that people with disabilities have requested him to appoint one more commissioner for inclusion in the National Poverty Alleviation Commission, since they form 15 per cent of this country's population. On the same strength, we feel very concerned when we speak of poverty alleviation since poverty and disability are synonymous. We, the disabled people, are the poorest of the poor in society. We are the uneducated and the unemployed. These facts strengthen our case for representation in the National Poverty Alleviation Commission.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our concern is that, in this country, we have had the same people in nearly all the commissions, including the constitutional review process, leaving out many other people with a lot of intellectual resources. We want to have a criteria for nominating most of these individuals, one that will ensure that people with disabilities are also included, right from the Human Rights Commission to the Commission of Inquiry into the Tribal Clashes. Many people were disabled as a result of the tribal clashes, yet none of them has been appointed to that Commission.

The President touched on the issue of infrastructure. The Ministry of Local Authorities should realise that people with disabilities - the blind in particular - who have to walk as we go about our daily tasks have suffered a great deal. Water-logged potholes are a menace to us. We cannot jump over them as we do not see. We only "sail" and "swim" through them. The roads in the City are a menace to us. Being in this position, I have been taught by the Lord to listen. Maybe, hon. Members, in their respective constituencies, have not had people with disabilities going to them because they are inaccessible. I have heard of many problems that our people encounter.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for instance, how many hon. Members have thought that water-logged potholes are of such inconvenience to people with crutches? What of people on wheel-chairs, who have to literally go through the potholes? How many times have we even thought of touring the slums? The majority of the people there are people with disabilities. They cannot use a lavatory or the narrow paths built in those estates, where people have to squeeze in order to pass. They cannot use their wheel-chairs. They are really living in problems. So, the coming up of the National Poverty Alleviation Programme is very important in uplifting our standard of living.

Also, I would like to thank the President for expressing his concern on the constitutional review process. Since this country gained Independence, this is the first time disabled people have been represented in this House. So, we want the constitutional review process to go on. Finally, there has been an increase in accidents. Last year's bomb blast disaster in Nairobi and the recent train derailment disaster on the Nairobi-Mombasa railway line are still very fresh in our minds. Many people get involved in accidents and end up joining the club of the disabled.

Those who have tried to follow up their cases for compensation from insurance firms have not succeeded. There is no justice in courts. There are no preferences of cases of people who have been disabled because of accidents. So, I would like to appeal to hon. Members to join people with disabilities in this concern because we are all vulnerable. Accidents cut across everybody. We should make sure that those who are responsible for administration of justice in this country lay down a process that will ensure that cases of accident victims, such as those of the bomb blast disaster, the recent train accident and road accidents, are heard first and the victims compensated appropriately. This will enable them to adopt to their new status, or change of life.

Last but not least, I would like to thank hon. Members of this House for the noble and tremendous support they have accorded me for the last few months I have been here. I would like the House to recognise that, as I have said, our Government is really mature and is in support of people with disabilities. I had a personal secretary for 10 years in the Office of the Attorney-General, and she has been transferred to support me in reading these Orders in advance, so as to be able to contribute effectively. I would like to thank the Chair and the House for that support, although that is not enough; that is just the first step. I hope that in our term, we shall work together, and more facilities will be in place not only for me, but also, for future Members of Parliament with disabilities.

With those few remarks, thank you.

**Mr. Kombe:** Ahsante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipa nafasi hii ili niweze kuiunga mkono Hotuba ya Rais, ambayo imegusia mambo muhimu yanayowakumba wananchi wa nchi hii. Kama sijakosea, mambo muhimu aliyozungumzia Rais ni umaskini, usalama, ufasadi na Katiba. Katika mchango wangu kwa Hotuba ya Rais, nitazungumza juu ya umaskini, ambao ni janga kubwa kwa wananchi wa Kenya. Ningependa kukubaliana na wenzangu waliotoa hoja zao kwamba, ili kuimaliza umaskini, ni lazima tuzingatie umuhimu wa

sekta ya kilimo. Tunapozungumza juu ya kufufua sekta ya kilimo, tunazungumza juu ya ardhi. Kilimo na ardhi vimehusiana kwa karibu sana.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nikizungumza juu ya ardhi, singetaka kujumlisha jambo hili au kusema kirefu kuhusu Kenya nzima, lakini nataka nizungumze juu ya yale ambayo mimi nimeona na nimeshuhudia na ni kuhusu sehemu ile ambayo ninayoiwakilisha Bungeni ya Magarini. Ninataka kusema kwamba sauti ya watu wa Magarini kwa Serikali yetu tukufu ya Kenya inasema hivi: Kwamba, sisi watu wa Magarini tumesahauliwa kwa sababu kama ni kuondoa umasikini katika hali ya kusaidia kuendeleza hali ya kilimo, sisi tuna ule moyo wa kuchangia uchumi wa nchi hii katika sehemu hii muhimu ya kilimo lakini Serikali imetusahau. Na nitasema hivyo kwa sababu kilimo ni ardhi na watu wa Magarini hawana ardhi. Nitasema hivi kwa sababu ni jambo ambalo linatumiza na linatutataza.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mwaka wa 1978, Serikali yetu ilianzisha mpango wa kugawanya ardhi na ikauita Magarini Settlement Scheme. Scheme hii, naweza kusema, haijasaidia wananchi **[Mr. Kombo]** wa sehemu hii kwa sababu, miaka 21 tangu scheme hii ianzishwe, watu bado wanangoja makaratasi ya kumiliki ardhi. Tunajiuliza kulikuwa kumekoseka kitu gani mpaka inachukua Serikali muda mrefu kama huo kupatia watu karatasi zao za kumiliki ardhi? Na bila umilikaji ardhi, itakuwa vigumu kuondoa au kupunguza umaskini huu, ambao mpango wake ulianzishwa hapo juzi kule Mbagathi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, sehemu nyingine ya huko Magarini ni Mambrui. Ardhi iliyogawanywa mwaka wa 1989, mpaka sasa, watu wanangoja makaratsi ya kumiliki ardhi. Sehemu nyingine ambayo naweza kusema ni kama na "time bomb", ni sehemu ya Ngomeni. Ardhi iliyogawanywa mwaka wa 1993, mpaka sasa, wananchi wanangojea makaratasi ya kumiliki ardhi. Tukiwa tunazungumza juu ya hali ya kuondoa umaskini na tumesikia wenzangu wengi wakisema umaskini utaondoka ikiwa sekta ya kilimo itawekewa mkazo, je ikiwa watu hawana ardhi, kilimo wata kifanya juu ya hewa? Hilo ni jambo ambalo Serikali yetu inatakiwa iangalie kwa sababu sisi watu wa Magarini tunaweza kusema siku ya leo kwamba tumesahauliwa.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo lingine ambalo ni muhimu katika kuondoa umaskini au kupunguza umaskini ni barabara. Sehemu ya Magarini tunasema tumesahauliwa kwa sababu ziko kata zingine au lokesheni ambazo hazipiti magari kwa sababu barabara hizi zilisahauliwa. Hazijalimwa wala kuangaliwa. Tunahesabu zaidi ya miaka 25. Je, kama barabara haziangaliwi, na ardhi haitolewi, tutawezaje kumaliza huu umaskini? Ni jambo ambalo Serikali yetu inatakiwa iangalie. Kama Serikali yetu itaangalia sehemu nyingine, pia nafikiri Magarini ni sehemu mojawapo ambayo iko katika nchi hii ya Kenya, na wananchi wana haki ya kuangaliwa ili waweze kusaidia uchumi wa nchi hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nimesema sehemu nyingi, watu hawajapata makaratasi yao; wale wachache ambao wako huko ndani wakijaribu kulima na kupata mazao yao kidogo, ni vigumu kuyasafirisha na ndio hapo naomba Wizara ya Ujenzi iangalie sana sehemu hii. Hivi ninavyosema, wakulima wa Magarini watapoteza zaidi ya Kshs.401 milioni kwa sababu wanavuna mananasi na hakuna barabara za kuchukua mazao hayo na kuyapeleka mahali pa kuyauza. Ni jambo la kusikitisha, nalo linazidisha umaskini katika sehemu nyingi za nchi hii yetu ya Kenya.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tukiingia katika ofisi za Serikali, na tukiuliza misaada ili wakulima wetu waweze kusaidiwa, tunaambiwa Serikali haina pesa. Watu wa Magarini wananiuliza: "Serikali haina pesa? Ni sawa, tunaweza kukubali, lakini ikiwa Serikali inasema haina pesa za kuwasaidia wananchi waweze kuisaidia kuendeleza uchumi wa nchi hii, mbona tunasikia kuna mamilioni ambayo yameibwa. Je, hizo pesa zimeibwa baharini au katika Serikali?" Hilo ni jambo au ni swali gumu ambalo sisi viongozi hatuwezi kulijibu. Kwa hivyo, lile jambo la kusema Serikali haina pesa---

**Mr. Murungi:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute on the Presidential Address. Those of us who were in the last Parliament are used to these speeches. The President's Speech was typical; it was a banality, full of platitudes, hypocrisy and pretence. At the beginning of the Speech, the President asked hon. Members to stand up and observe a one-minute silence in remembrance of the Member for Tigania West, Benjamin Ndubai, and we all stood up. But as I am talking here, the children of hon. Ndubai are being evicted from their home in Lavington. The President is doing nothing about it. He came to Tigania to shed crocodile tears. He has also come to shed crocodile tears in this House. If he was really serious about hon. Ndubai, let him save Ndubai's children who are suffering in Lavington. He has helped rich people like Mr. Nyanja and the others who are being auctioned. Why can he not help those children who are so miserable? We would like the President to practise what he preaches.

If hon. Ndubai was so important to him; if he was so close to his heart, let him look at their problem in Lavington. Let him, at least, ask the banks which are harassing them to stop until they reorganise themselves, or he can pay that Kshs1 million. That is petty cash to the President! We have no doubt that the only reason why the President came to Tigania to attend Ndubai's funeral was because that seat is now vacant, and KANU wants it. It

was not because he really cared much for that man. Since the last general elections, President Moi has never come to Meru; he only comes there when somebody has died. He only comes to attend funerals in Meru, like Angaine's, Ndubai's and all that. We are asking the President to come to Meru when there are no funerals. When he comes to Meru again, let him come by road; he should not fly. When he flies, he is not aware of the problems affecting our people who are dying at the Nithi Bridge. The President cannot dare come by road, through the Nithi Bridge because, we never know what can happen there. A lot of people have died on that spot. So, next time he comes, he should drive through the Nithi Bridge and take the risks that the Meru people are taking every day on that road. He should not live in ivory towers and preach to the people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President is surrounded by too much luxury, court poets, flatterers and sycophants, who cheat him every day how this country is doing well; how Kenya is No.1; how we are the island of peace in Africa South of the Sahara. He is totally removed from the issues he talks about in this House. For instance, since Independence, 35 years ago, the President himself has never bought a loaf of bread. He has never bought salt or sugar. He does not know the cost of those items. So, when he comes here and talks about poverty, he is talking about things he does not know. Can we leave this sycophancy? When we mention the President, somebody stands up on a point of order.

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Dr. Anangwe): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not wish to interrupt what the hon. Member is saying. The subject at issue is the Presidential Speech, but he seems to have descended into discussing the person of the president. The Standing Orders are very explicit. If he needs to discuss about the conduct of another Member of Parliament, he has to bring a substantive Motion. Bring it here!

**Mr. Murungi:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Although the hon. Member is a Minister, he came to the House the other day. He does not know what we are talking about here. What I was saying---

**The Minister of State, Office of the President** (Dr. Anangwe): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. All hon. Members are equal. When we are here, we should be assessed as being equal. The fact that we came here the other day does not mean we are less competent to contribute to the debates in this House.

**Mr. Murungi:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the sycophancy we are talking about.

*(Laughter)*

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Mkalla): Hon. Murungi, would you, please, use parliamentary language? I do not expect you to call anybody a sycophant while we are in the House.

**Mr. Murungi:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We are talking about the Presidential Speech and we are saying the man does not know what he was talking about because, he has no daily contact with poverty. So, what does he know about poverty?

On corruption, the President said that our people should treat corruption with contempt. But it is true that our people respect and adore corrupt leaders. Should Kamlesh Pattni go anywhere in this country, our people see him as a hero, not as a villain. The respected leaders are people like Kuria Kanyingi who can give Kshs1 million at a single sitting in a church service. It is not honest, straightforward leaders. This is the culture or legacy that KANU is going to leave in this country. It is not possible for KANU to root out corruption in this country because the whole political system is built on lies and corruption. The only solution to corruption in this country is not making beautiful speeches about it in Parliament; the solution to corruption in this country is to remove KANU from power. So long as KANU is in power, there would be corruption in this country and it is going to increase.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to constitutional reforms, the President urged all political parties to seek an acceptable solution to the current stalemate. I think the Mzee has grown so old that he does not know what is happening even with regard to the Constitution. The problem on the constitutional review front is not in all the political parties; the problem is with KANU. We have also done further research and found out that it is not all members of KANU who are against constitutional reforms. We have even found out that hon. Prof. Saitoti supports constitutional reforms. The problem is only one person; hon. J.J. Kamotho. Hon. Kamotho has said that the Democratic Party (DP) would never get three commissioners; they will get them over his dead body. We are urging Mr. Kamotho, who has been rejected by the people of Mathioya, the people of Central Province, and the people of Kenya, if he thinks he is popular, let him call KANU elections. Then we shall know whether he can retain his seat as the Secretary-General of KANU.

This political reject should not be allowed to hold Kenyans to ransom. We are urging the President, if he

is serious about constitutional reforms, to call Mr. Kamotho either to State House or to his house in Kibera, and tell him to stop that arrogance and hatred he has about the DP, and the constitutional reform process is going to move forward. Unless the President calls Mr. Kamotho and they agree on that, this situation will get out of hand. There would be mass action, riots and demonstrations in the streets for constitutional reforms. We have no doubt that Mr. Kamotho would come, on his knees, begging us for friendship and asking us to talk, but it would be too late. So, we are urging Mr. Kamotho to take this opportunity to talk to us and move the process forward, if KANU is serious.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as Meru is concerned, we have said we have given up on President Moi and the Government of KANU. We would never kneel down to them, asking for development; we are going to develop Meru District when DP comes to power.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**The Assistant Minister for Environmental Conservation** (Mr. Affey): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of the major issues that the President mentioned in his Address was security. For the first time, the residents of North Eastern Province (NEP) have heard from the President himself about the commitment of the Government to ensuring security in the country. We, from NEP, are fighting more than ever before for our own survival because insecurity has been one of the major problems that we have had. Poverty has been another problem that the NEP residents have had to live with for many years, and when we hear now from the President himself about the Government's commitment in patrolling the borders, it is good news to us. I would like inform the Minister of State, Office of the President, in charge of internal security - unfortunately he is not in the House now - that the residents would like to assist the Government in maintaining security. If this message could be delivered to him, we would be very happy. We have always done that, and we do not need to be told to support the Government to maintain security because therein lies our own survival. What we require most is action being taken on the ground.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a few years ago, we used to have military facilities at the border of Kenya and Somalia, at Liboi. Today, as I am talking, those facilities have been withdrawn. So, I am wondering what kind of commitment we are talking about if we can withdraw those kind of facilities which are of significant importance to us. I would urge the Minister to immediately deploy military personnel along that border. If he cannot do that, then it is better for the Government to withdraw the military personnel in Wajir, Mandera and Garissa, because those ones are insignificant to us. These military personnel should be taken to the borders. Our borders must be seen to be protected.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a few months ago, we suggested to the Government to give us the Kenya Police Reserve (KPR), to be based in constituencies, to take care of the security of the people and to beef up the Administration Police officers and the Kenya Police Force on the ground. To date, we have been unable to receive any positive response to that request. I would like to appeal for an urgent recruitment of staff into this particular department so that we can feel most safe. Once more, it is my appeal to the Minister to facilitate the payment of extra allowances to the Administration Police. As residents of NEP, we feel that the only unit that has sufficiently been able to protect us has been the Administration Police. These officers work under very difficult circumstances as they have no vehicles and are lowly paid, in fact, to an extent they are now very much demoralised. So, I would request the Minister to work out ways of paying them these extra allowances. In my view, they have been taken to the death chambers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President also spoke about poverty alleviation. In our region, we are facing a very serious problem of poverty, yet this country has got enormous resources. Every region can make its own unique contribution towards the economic prosperity of this country. But we have failed as the Government and people of Kenya to explore the resources inherent in every region. Our resources are lying idle without being exploited for the benefit of the people of this country. For those people who are complaining over land problems in their areas, I want to inform them that we have enough land in our region, and they can come over. We have also enough underground water, and if we are able to irrigate our land, then we can feed this country and, by extension, export it. So, poverty alleviation can only be addressed if we realise that every region has got its own unique contribution to make to the economy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, livestock, which is the backbone of the pastoralists' economy in Kenya, has been systematically destroyed to the extent that we are unable to sell our animals. The defunct Kenya Meat Commission (KMC), which was the only outlet for the pastoralists, has now gone under. So, how will we sell our livestock? How do you expect to alleviate poverty in a region that entirely depends on livestock and they cannot sell them? I would like to appeal to the Minister for Agriculture to urgently revive KMC because that is the only hope for the pastoralists in the country and in particular, North Eastern Province. If we seriously have to alleviate poverty, then we must address what each region has; what it is producing, and their market outlets.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, NEP residents have been looking forward for the constitutional review process, but we have been disappointed upon learning that the process will not take off because of in-fighting amongst the political parties. Kenyans are more than ready to change the current Constitution. We require commitment from political parties in order to realise that objective. Above all, we are hon. Members who have been elected by Kenyans. So, the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Act should be brought to this House for further discussion as we have made mistakes, and as a Parliament, we must own up because we did pass that Act with a lot of loopholes. For instance, we imagined that the political parties would agree to the 13 places in the Kenya Constitution Review Commission, but now, the parties have failed to agree, and Parliament should solely take the mistake as we cannot abdicate our responsibility to people who have no mandate. I would like to appeal to hon. Members that when the Act comes to Parliament, let us discuss it thoroughly, so that we can pass a refined one. The current Act is defective and cannot sustain the review process. If we do not agree on the number of commissioners who will sit in the Commission, how will we agree at the district level, because there could be several political parties there? In districts like Murang'a and Kirinyaga, there are many political parties which may not agree on the number of people who should sit in the District Forum. So, if we leave the Act that way, history will repeat itself. I would like Parliament to take the lead in the constitutional review process.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as stated by His Excellency the President, the responsibility of eradicating corruption is with every Kenyan. We should take responsibility for our mistakes. Finally, I would like to appeal to the Minister of State, Office of the President, who is in charge of internal security, to redeploy the military personnel along the Kenya-Somali border so that we do not have free-flow of firearms.

Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

**Mr. Kamau:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I contribute to the Presidential Address, I would wish to thank all hon. Members who were concerned about my whereabouts yesterday. I would like to assure them that I am safe and I am here in Parliament, and possibly, I will be here to fight for what brought me to Parliament.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have very little to talk about the Address. The Address, once again, is made up of the same rhythm and we are expected to dance to the same tune. This has become the tradition of this country. Speeches are written and well rehearsed, but, to an extent, never implemented. The same case applies to this Address. The Speech was well-worded but the crux of the matter is that the person who was delivering it knew that he was going to read the Speech and nothing beyond there. Kenyans know that although the Speech says the Government is going to do certain things, nothing is going to be done. This is the same orchestra---They write speeches and they think that we shall continue dancing to the same rhythm. We are not going to dance to the same rhythm again. We have new brains in this House now, and there are no sycophants. We have the dedication to serve this country and we are going to do that.

A few issues were brought out in this Speech and I think every Member of Parliament has talked about the eradication of poverty. Indeed, after the Speech by the President, a commission was put in place to look into ways and means of eradicating poverty in this country. One wonders what formula poverty is made of, now that we need researchers to analyze the chemical composition of poverty! One cannot really understand why we should always have commissions in this country to look into what we know. Everybody in this country knows about poverty, but this Government is famous for setting up commissions, which will never table any report in this House; and even if they are tabled, they are useless because they will never be implemented. Now, we have a commission which is going to use the taxpayers' money. This commission was constituted because some people somewhere were thought not to be active. So, posts were created for such people and hence the setting up of a commission to eradicate poverty. Let us hope that those people who have been named into that commission will soon tell us the chemical composition of poverty, and we shall be very glad to know that.

I would like to comment on one issue which every hon. Member has commented on. Without considering the agricultural sector in this country, you have nothing to talk about. Today, this Government is at war with every farmer; the fish farmer, the sugar-cane farmer, the rice farmer, the milk farmer and so on. This is a Government which is at war with its own people. I honestly believe that we should now have other people talking about eradication of poverty, but not the Government. In actual sense, we should also differentiate between the

Government and some few people who are in the Government. All that has been said in the Presidential Speech are the thoughts of a very few people. I would be ashamed to say that this is a country that is run by power barons; some few people who sit somewhere and think that this country belongs to them. So, when we talk of the Government, we should not continue blaming everybody in the Government. I think we should specifically say that we have some few people in this Government who have made it to be where it is now. We have Ministers here and some of them are very learned, but the truth of the matter is that they are just Ministers by name. Their Ministries are administered from State House. So, the question of being the Minister for this or that means nothing. You have no powers! You are just called a Minister. So, the question of being a Minister of such-and-such Ministry is of no use. A whole Assistant Minister said here that he did not know the definition of an Assistant Minister. They do not even know what they are expected to do. That is an indication that the Assistant Ministers are also frustrated. They have Ministries, but they do not know what to do.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that I am one of the Directors of Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) who are being sought by the CID. I am sure they are up here and they are seeing me. But I am saying this: What they are doing is because they have instructions not from the Commissioner of Police but from above. I think it is time that institutions in this country must be respected. If Thirikwa Kamau has committed any crime, he should be arrested like anybody else. I am ready to go to court and defend myself. But I really do not think, even when we talk of security matters--- If this Government can be ready to deploy the whole of Nyahururu Police Station around my house, throughout the night--- And even when my neighbours are being robbed, they cannot avail even one policeman--- I think, surely, things are getting out of hand.

So, what I am saying is that this Government must appear to be a Government. We must respect the rule of law. We must also respect the institutions that make the laws. If an hon. Member of Parliament can be harassed and all sorts of things done to him, what do you expect of the silent members of our community, or even the silent commoners in Nairobi? You can imagine the kind of treatment they get from the police. But I really do not blame the police. I actually think that the police only get instructions. Indeed, if all things must come to an end, surely, there is only one way; that is removing the whole Government from power and putting a new Government to have other new systems. Without having new systems, I think we are too rotten. There is nothing that you can do now. Even if you talk about security, corruption or anything, nothing can change now. But I say this: There is nothing that this Government can do. I think we are beyond what we can rectify. It is like when you are talking of a dead body. Even if you pray for years, the dead body can never wake up again. This Government has almost gone to that extent. So, we are saying, if really this Government would like us to believe that we have a Government, it should start by respecting the laws. This is because the Government is the custodian of the laws.

So, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am urging the Government to come back to its senses and realise that if we have to eradicate poverty, we cannot call press conferences within 24 hours and announce that the fish in Lake Victoria is poisonous, without knowing the effect of such a statement. The fish farmers in Kisumu or Nyanza Province depend on fish. Even if the Minister for Health okayed the fish yesterday, a lot of damage had already been done. Today, I am sure that nobody would start buying fish. We are not going to convince other countries that our fish is okay. In the first place, before it made that statement, the Government must have considered the after-effects of the statement. Now, you come to this House and say: "Oh, we would like to eradicate poverty."

When you talk about the sugar industry, the Government is at war with the sugar-cane farmers. But simply because they do not have an interest in sugar, every few years, they create wars. They do not give solutions. When solutions are found, they start fighting with the solutions. I am saying this because I am being sought because of one thing. Even all the directors are being sought because of one thing. For years; and if Parliament can remember, in 1989, you used taxpayers' money to pay the farmers. Taxpayers' money amounting to Kshs800 million, was paid to the farmers. Where did that money go? It was pocketed by people who are known. That time, the Government did not raise a finger. Why? Because it knew who had pocketed that money. I am like this. There is no difference!

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghisio): Order! Your time is up. Let us hear hon. Tarar.

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development** (Mr. Tarar): Asante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipa nafasi hii ili nichangie mjadala huu kuhusu hotuba ya Rais Moi. Tumesikia mengi kutoka kwa ndugu zangu waheshimiwa Wabunge kutoka pande zote mbili za Bunge hili. Rais Moi, katika Hotuba yake, alitaja mambo manne muhimu kama yanavyojitokeza hapa Bungeni. Ni jambo la ajabu sana kuwa kabla sijachaguliwa kuwaakilisha watu wangu katika Bunge hili, nilikuwa na kazi ngumu sana. Ninaamini ya kwamba hata waheshimiwa Wabunge wa upande wa Upinzani pia nao walikuwa na kibarua kigumu cha kuwaondoa waheshimiwa Wabunge waliokuwa wakiwaakilisha katika Bunge hili. Ninasema hivi kwa sababu wakati wa

kampeini tulisema maneno mengi kwa wananchi wetu. Kwa hivyo, si jambo la ajabu kusikia hawa ndugu zetu wa upande wa Upinzani wakisema maneno mazuri kuhusiana na mambo ambayo pengine wangelitaka yafanywe katika nchi hii. Lakini maneno matupu hayatoshi kwa sababu sisi sote tuliwaahidi wananchi wetu kuwa tutawafanyia kazi tukiwa katika Upinzani au upande wa Serikali.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tunapozungumza juu ya umaskini katika nchi hii, ni lazima tuelewe ya kwamba shida hii si ya wafuasi wa KANU tu, bali inakabili taifa lote. Ni wajibu wetu kama waheshimiwa Wabunge kuungana mikononi ili tuone ni njia kwa gani tunaweza kusuluhisha shida hii ya umaskini. Ni heri sote waheshimiwa Wabunge kukutana katika kikao maalum kama vile tumekutana katika Bunge hili, na kujadili njia mwafaka za kufuata ili tuwasaidie watu wetu. Nilimsikia mhe. Mbunge jana akisema ya kwamba wakati Serikali hii ilipotwaa uongozi wa nchi hii, ati tuliambiwa ya kwamba tuko mbioni. Aliuliza tuko mbioni kwenda wapi na hajui lini mbio hizo zitafikia kikomo. Ningependa kumwambia mhe. Mbunge huyu kwamba wananchi wetu hawakimbii kama anayofikiria; au kama vile alivyokuwa anakambia Bw. Keino.

**Mr. Kathangu:** Jambo la nidhamu, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Ni jambo la nidhamu kwa mhe. Mbunge kutumia neno la kiswahili "kukimbia" ilhali tunajua ya kwamba maneno yaliyotumiwa yalikuwa ya Kiingereza: "We are on the run"? Katika lugha ya Kiingereza, maneno haya humaanisha mwizi anayetafutwa na polisi iwapo amejificha mahali fulani.

**The Assistant Minister for Co-operative Development (Mr. Tarar):** Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ndugu yangu, mhe. Kathangu, anajaribu kunipotezea wakati wangu bure. Yeye amekuwa katika jeshi letu na anajua tofauti kati ya kumkimbiza mwizi na jinsi nchi inavyokimbia.

Maoni yangu yalikuwa kuwa katika mwaka wa 1961, nchi hii ilikuwa na watu wachache sana tukilinganisha na vile walivyo katika mwaka huu wa 1999. Hiyoni ndio maana ya kusema tuko mbioni.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, leo tuko na constituencies zaidi ya 200 katika nchi hii ukilinganisha na mwaka wa 1961, ambapo tulikuwa na constituencies chache. Kwa hivyo, ni heri ndugu zetu walio katika upande wa Upinzani wajue kwamba tunaposema "tunakimbia", tunamaanisha kwamba tunawahudumia watu wetu na si kwamba tunakimbia kwa miguu. Ninataka kuwambia Wabunge wenzangu kwamba tusifanye makosa sisi kama viongozi wa nchi hii, kwa sababu nchi yoyote inategemea vile viongozi wake wanavyobadilisha Serikali yao.

Watu wa Uganda walifanya makosa kwa kubadilisha Serikali yao kwa kutumia nguvu mwaka wa 1966. Mpaka leo, wananchi wa nchi hiyo wanabadilisha Serikali yao kwa kutumia nguvu. Mtu akiipindua Serikali kwa nguvu, Serikali yake pia itapinduliwa kwa nguvu. Pia, mtu akiwatukana wale watu ambao wanaiongoza Serikali, kama vile ilivyo sasa, basi wale ambao wataiongoza Serikali nyingine watatukanwa pia, na wale watu ambao wataumia ni wananchi. Tukibadilisha Serikali kwa kupiga kura, basi Serikali itakayofuata itabadilishwa kwa kupiga kura. Ningependa kuwambia ndugu zangu ambao wako katika upande wa Upinzani kwamba ni heri wakati tunapojadiliana hapa tujue mahali tunataka kuielekeza nchi yetu. Tusifanye makosa tukifikiri kwamba tukibadilisha Serikali iliyo mamlakani namna hii, Serikali ya baadaye itabadilishwa vile tunavyotaka. Serikali iking'olewa kwanza kwa kutumia nguvu, basi itaendelea kung'olewa kwa njia hiyo katika wakati ujao.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tumezungumzia ufisadi. Ninaona Wabunge wa Upinzani wanavielekeza vidole vyao kwa Mawaziri wa Serikali yetu. Ningependa kuwafahamisha kwamba kama kuna watu ambao wanajishughulisha na ufisadi, basi watu hao wako katika Upinzani. Ufisadi uko mikononi mwa yule mtu ambaye anafikiri hatapoteza kitu chochote, na yule mtu ambaye hatapoteza chochote katika Serikali wakati huu ni wa Upinzani.

Hivi majuzi tulisoma kutoka magazetini kwamba watu fulani waliona wataishinda Serikali ya KANU kwa kutumia kanisa. Watu hao walimnunulia Archbishop Mwana A'Nzeki magari mawili ya bei ya juu ili aitukane Serikali kila siku, na ili wao waweze kuing'oa mamlakani. Sijui kama Wabunge wa Upinzani watalikanusha jambo hili. Jambo la kushangaza ni kwamba hakuna Mbunge wa KANU ambaye alitoa pesa ili magari hayo yaweze kununuliwa. Huo ulikuwa ni ufisadi ambao tunazungumzia sasa hivi, na Rais Daniel arap Moi anasema tuangamize. Kwa hivyo, kila wakati tunapozungumza kuhusu ufisadi, tusielekeze vidole vyetu kwa upande wa Serikali. Ningependa kusema kwamba Mbunge wa Upinzani akielekeza kidole kimoja kwa Serikali, vile vidole vingine vitatu vinamwelekea. Hii inamaanisha kwamba Mbunge huyo anahusika na ufisadi zaidi kuliko maafisa wa Serikali.

Kwa upande ule wa umaskini ingefaa kuwe na ushirikiano kati ya sisi tulio katika Serikali na wale wenzetu ambao wako katika upande wa Upinzani. Tunataka kupigania haki ya watu wote wa nchi hii ya Kenya. Hatutaki kuwe na watu wa Serikali ambao ni tofauti kama vile nilvyosema hapo awali, na wale walio katika Upinzani huko nje. Wote wako katika meli moja ambayo ni Kenya.

**Mr. Keynan:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute on the Presidential Address.

The Presidential Address touched on a number of things ranging from economic, political and social

problems that exist in this country. There are four issues that were raised in the Presidential Address; these are development, alleviation of poverty, corruption, insecurity and constitutional review. On the issue of progress and development, this is more theoretical than realistic because all [Mr. Keynan] along, this country has been known to have some of the best policies in the world but when it comes to the implementation, we have been the poorest. At one time we had internationally renowned athletes. Today, we have in this country internationally renowned fraudsters and thieves and scholars. At the end of the day if we take the summative evaluation of all that has happened, we again end up at zero. Today, we are ranking third among the most corrupt countries. This is a position Kenya would have avoided if only we adhered to some of the issues that have been raised by different people.

The issues of education, unemployment, hunger and malnutrition which were raised do exist. It is time for the Government to act because we know these problems are there but just talking about them does not solve them. This country is endowed with many resources and the only thing that is missing is the implementation. This cannot be achieved without having well-focused individuals who are interested in the well being of Kenyans. On the issue of national poverty alleviation plan, immediately this country got Independence, under Sessional Paper No.3, three issues were covered; ignorance, poverty and diseases. We are repeating the same things without having taken into stock both the summative and formative evaluation. What has been achieved so far? We are repeating the same things. It has become a vicious thing. It is a beautiful and well-documented paper, but I doubt whether we are going to achieve anything meaningful unless and until we have committed civil servants. It is almost 15 months since the last general elections.

Yesterday, we were in Wajir with hon. Shariff Nassir, who was the third Minister to come there. The first Minister to visit Wajir was hon. Ndambuki, and the second one was hon. Kiptoon. How many of our Ministers here have ever been to different parts of the country? You are the people who are failing the Government and the President; it is not even the civil servants. Ministers are not in charge of their Ministries. The President has talked about these issues so many times. I am glad that hon. Anangwe is here. The people of Wajir really need more relief food than ever before. I am sure you are not aware of what has been going on there. We have been getting 2000 bags, monthly and that is not adequate. I am challenging him to go to Wajir and see for himself the problems the people of Wajir are experiencing. After that, he can even brief the President instead of relying on a few selfish civil servants who are not interested in anything other than feeding their stomachs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a Standard Eight pupil was asked to define what a "tarmac road" means and he said that, it is a black substance normally found on the surface of roads in the Rift Valley Province and Central Kenya. That gives you the magnitude of the problem in North Eastern Kenya because they have never seen a tarmac road. That is the only definition they have had from their teachers. We want the pupils to see what a tarmac road is.

**Mr. Shidie:** On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the tarmac road he is talking about, people in Northern Kenya think, is found in heaven.

**Mr. Keynan:** Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want our children to know what it means to have a tarmac road. The issue of corruption is not something new in this country. We know the history of this nation; we know the perpetrators of this evil thing, and I think the best service we can offer to this nation is to say: "We have had enough of it and let this thing come to a halt". That is the only way we can progress.

On the issue of the Constitutional Review Process, a lot has been said. We do not need to spend Kshs5.5 billion on this document. We have renowned constitutional lawyers and the only thing we need to do is to repeal the Act. Our people are suffering and we cannot afford to spend Kshs5.5 billion on the Constitutional Review Process and, at the end of the day, the structure is not even clear. We have a stalemate at national level and tomorrow we will have it at the District Consultative Forum because the structure is not clear. I think we have made a mistake. Let us acknowledge the fact that we have made a mistake. We should then bring that Act to this House, repeal it, appoint eight constitutional lawyers representing the eight provinces, and within a span of three to four months, we will be given what we need to change the current Constitution because if it is Chapter One, somebody will say: "This is what we need to repeal and this is what we need to amend". That is now encouraging corruption. We cannot afford to spend Kshs5.5 billion on the Constitutional Review Process. I am pleading with other hon. Members that, let us repeal that Act and appoint ten constitutional lawyers and then Parliament will take charge of the whole review process. Why do we have to waste a lot of time on agreeing on "top gain"? At the end of the day, I do not think we are going to achieve anything. Let us just seek the supremacy of Parliament, and that is the only idea we can come to; otherwise, we are setting a bad precedent. We have disagreed at a national level. In another three years, we will still be bogged down at the district level, and I think we are not heading anywhere.

On the issue of the appointment of the Vice-President, I think quite a lot of things have been said. If we



have to respect the Constitution--- Most of us have been making a lot of noise on the issue of constitutionalism. We have talked about the independence of the Judiciary, the Executive and the Legislature. It is high time we respected these institutions. However, even if you do not love the individual, constitutionalism demands that regardless of your deep hatred of the individual, as long as that is within the framework of the Constitution, we have every reason for every patriotic Kenyan to accept that reality. This is one of the things that we have failed to appreciate. Therefore, for those of us who have been clamouring for the appointment of the Vice-President, we have the Vice-President now. Those who have been saying that the Cabinet is not complete should know that it is complete now. Wait for your turn. Let the elections come and you contest to see what happens, instead of lingering around on the issue of tribes, regions and several other petty issues. This is why today I can say that Kenyans have become a man-eat-man society because of the examples we have shown.

Even today, when a road accident occurs somewhere - God forbid it does not happen instead of Kenyans coming to rescue the victims, the first places they get to are the victims' pockets. That is the example they have learnt from the leaders. This is because we are unthankful and untruthful. Today, even the issue of Presidency does not matter. We have made it a cult. We do not need it; let us completely delink this from regional and tribal issues. Elections have been there and they will come; you can then contest. I can see now why most people are hesitant about the Constitutional Review Process because their interests are pegged on the issue of the Presidency. We do not need that. What we want is a rightful Kenyan, capable of leading Kenyans, to become the President. He can come from any corner of this country. It does not mean that one tribe or one region has produced the best men at the moment. No. That is not the logic.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have a lot of problems that we can address today on so many State issues. We have had the issue of the Ocalan disaster. It was a disaster! I was out of this country when that thing happened and I did not like the impression the international Press gave about Kenya. The Immigration Department gave their own story; the Turkish Government gave their own story, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave their own story. We need a co-ordinated kind of events. It is high time that this Government appointed a spokesman, and I think that is why they have been sending so many conflicting stories to the extent that we do not know what happened. Mr. Kuindwa gave his own statement, and the Minister was the other day protecting this Government. How do we know? I agree with whoever said that the Ocalan disaster has put Kenya at risk globally. Why should we allow people to come and fight a war that we are not a party to on our side? That is where we have failed, because Kenya is being seen as one of the countries that are masked. I agree with whoever said that it is high time we professionalised and de-linked the Civil Service from our petty politics. Let us respect them regardless of one's rank, the region where one comes from and one's tribe. Let these people resign if they are not delivering. These people sit in big offices earning a lot of money and yet, at the end of the day, they do not deliver.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

**Mr. Mkalla:** Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninataka kukushuru kwa kunipatia nafasi hii kuchangia Hotuba ya Rais. Kwanza kabisa, ningetaka kusema kwamba sera ambazo zilitolewa katika Hotuba ya Rais zilikuwa ni sera ambazo zinahitaji kuungwa mkono na ni sera nzuri sana kwa Serikali yetu na nchi yetu.

Ni ajabu kuona kwamba waheshimiwa Wabunge wengine wanasema kwamba sera hizo zilikuwa hazifai. Lakini lazima tuelewe kwamba Mtukufu Rais, kazi yake ni kutoa sera na wengine waweze kuendeleza sera zile. Utekelezaji wa sera hizo sio wajibu wa Mtukufu Rais, bali ni wananchi wengine ambao wamepeva kazi mbali mbali katika nchi yetu ya Kenya. Kwa hivyo, mimi ninaunga mkono kabisa sera ambazo zilitolewa na Mtukufu Rais, na ni wajibu wa Wakenya wote kuhakikisha kwamba wanatekeleza sera hizo.

Tukizungumzia habari ya umaskini, ambayo ilitokea katika Hotuba ya Rais, ni kweli nchi yetu ya Kenya imekumbwa na umaskini mkubwa. Kuna ukosefu mkubwa wa kazi. Barabara zetu nyingi--- Hasa nikizungumzia kule ninakotoka katika sehemu ya Kinango, hakuna barabara hata moja, kwa muda wa miaka 36 tangu tupate Uhuru, ambayo ina lami hata inchi moja. Hili ni jambo ambalo si la kupendeza, na ni lazima Serikali iangalie ni kwa njia gani itasaidia kutekeleza, kurekebisha na kufanya barabara hizo katika upande wa Kinango, ili nao waone angaa sehemu fulani iko la lami. Hata zile barabara ambazo si za lami, pia nazo ni mbaya; hazipitiki. Jambo hili limefanya hali ya usafiri katika sehemu ya Kinango kuwa haiwezekani. Ikiwa hali ya usafiri haifanyiki, ina maana hata mazao ambayo yanatolewa katika sehemu ya Kinango hayafiki sokoni. Kwa mfano, sisi ni watu ambao tulikuwa tukifuga ng'ombe. Tulikuwa tunapeleka maziwa mengi kule Mariakani Milk Scheme. Mtambo huu uliharibiwa kitambo na wafanyikazi fulani wa Serikali, na mpaka sasa, mtambo huu haujarekebisha. Jambo hili limefanya wananchi - sio wa Kinango au Kwale peke yao, lakini wananchi wengi - kukosa mapato. Kwa sababu ya hayo, hali yao ya umaskini imezidi kudidimia. Jambo lililoko ni kwamba, ikiwa tutazungumza juu ya kuondoa umaskini, lazima tuangalie ni njia gani tutafanya ili tupunguze umaskini huo. Huu umaskini ni lazima tutafute njia ya kuufanya; kwa mfano, huu mtambo wa maziwa ambao nimesema huko Mariakani; tutengeneze

mambo ya maji katika sehemu ile ambayo mnatoka ya Kinango. Kwa mfano, hatuna hata mabwawa ya maji ambayo yametengenezwa kwa muda wa miaka 35 baada ya Uhuru. Ikiwa sisi ni wafugaji na wakulima na hatuna maji, mimea ile itakuwa namna gani? Hata sisi wenyewe tutaishi namna gani bila maji? Hata sisi wenyewe, hatuwezi kuishi bila maji. Ni ajabu kuona kwamba, katika sehemu yangu ya Kinango, hatupati maji kwa sababu, eti, hakuna pressure inayowezesha maji yale kuingia kule. Pressure hii inapatikana wapi kule kwa Waduruma? Tunataka msimamo huu wa kuambiwa kwamba hakuna pressure ya kuwezesha maji kuingia Kinango ubadilike. Ikiwa tunataka umoja, inafaa umoja huu uwe wa Kenya nzima, na siyo umoja wa maneno bila vitendo katika sehemu ya Kinango.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo lingine ambalo nitagusia ni kuhusu umeme. Kuna ule mpango unaoitwa katika Kiingereza "Rural Electrification Programme." Ni ajabu kwamba watu wa Kinango hawajawahi kuona umeme katika sehemu yao. Ikiwa hakuna umeme kule Kinango na tunasema kwamba tunataka kuondoa umaskini, umaskini huu utaondolewa vipi ikiwa hatuna umeme? Ikiwa hakuna umeme, wenye viwanda hawawezi kuja kujenga viwanda kule Kinango. Hiyo inamaanisha kwamba, watu wa sehemu ile hawawezi kupata kazi. Ombi langu kubwa ni kwamba, ikiwa kweli nia yetu ya kuondoa umaskini ni nzuri, lazima tuwawezeshe wale wananchi wa Kinango kupata umeme ili kuwavutia wenye biashara kujenga viwanda kule, ili nao waweze kuendelea kama sehemu nyingine.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kuhusu umaskini, ningependa kugusia kwamba, kuna sera mpya ambayo imebuniwa na Wizara ya Elimu. Tunasikia kwamba, shule zitaunganishwa pamoja kwa sababu ya ukosefu wa wanafunzi. Lakini jambo hili lazima liangaliwe kwa makini kabla halijatekelezwa. Ikiwa nia yetu ni kuwawezesha wananchi wasome ili waweze kutumikia Serikali hii kikamilifu, ni lazima tuwapatie nafasi za kusoma. Inafaa kuwashawishi wananchi wote nchini Kenya wahakikishe kwamba, watoto wao wanaenda shule. Lakini haifai kuunganisha shule. Sisi katika sehemu ya Kinango, tunasema kwamba, shule ambazo ziko ni zaidi ya kilomita 20 ama 30 kutoka shule moja hadi nyingine. Kwa hivyo, ikiwa mtoto ana miaka mitano na tunataka aende shule ambayo imeunganishwa na nyingine ilioko umbali wa kilomita 30, yule mtoto wa miaka mitano atafika vipi katika shule ile? Tutakuwa tunazidisha hali ya umaskini katika shule ile, kwa sababu ya ukosefu wa elimu. Kwa hivyo, msimamo wetu ni kwamba, tuangalie ni njia gani tutaweza kuwashawishi wananchi wote wapeleke watoto wao katika shule na siyo kufunga shule chache ambazo ziko kule na kuziunganisha na nyingine.

Katika hali ya kuhakikisha shule zile zinaendelea, pia tungetaka walimu waletwe katika shule zile. Watoto wengi wamekosa elimu inayofaa kwa sababu ya ukosefu wa walimu. Leo hii, katika Kinango, tuna ukosefu wa walimu karibu 120. Hakuna walimu, huku watoto wale wanatarajiwa kufanya sawasawa na watoto wengine nchini, katika mitihani ya KCPE na KCSE. Watafanyaje sawasawa ikiwa hawana walimu 120 katika sehemu yao ya uwakilisho Bungeni? Je, huu ni usawa kweli? Tungependa Serikali pia ituangalie sisi watu wa Kinango ili tuweze kupata elimu inayofaa, na wahakikishe kwamba tunapata walimu sawasawa na shule nyingine nchini, na shule zetu zisiunganishwe pamoja. Tungependa kuzipanua hata zaidi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo lingine nitagusia ni usalama. Hali ya usalama inatutitiza kule Kinango kwa sababu, siku hizi na hata wiki jana, watu walipigwa katika barabara kwenye magari na kukatwa kwa mapanga. Usiku kuna wezi wanaovunja maduka, huku wengine wakiwa na bunduki. Inafaa tuchukue hatua muafaka kuhakikisha kwamba, vita kama hivi haviendelei. Ningetaka kuomba Serikali ihakikishe kwamba, polisi katika sehemu ile na sehemu nyingine zote nchini Kenya, wamepewa magari ya kuwawezesha kutembelea sehemu mbali mbali, katika hali ya kuimarisha usalama; lakini, siyo magari peke yake.

Ombi langu ni kwamba ni lazima tuangalie ni njia gani tutawafanya polisi wawe na vifaa vya kuwasaidia katika kazi yao ya kuimarisha usalama katika sehemu zetu. Hali hii ya usalama ambayo imetokea sasa inafanya mpaka hali ya utalii katika sehemu zetu za pwani kuzidi kwenda chini; inadidimia. Hii ni kwa sababu watu wakisikia mahali fulani, devera amekatwa, duka limevunjwa, inawatisha. Ombi langu kubwa ni kwamba tunataka tuhakikishe hawa polisi wako na vifaa vya kuwawezesha kufanya kazi yao. Zaidi ya hapo, tuangalie hali yao ya mishahara. Mara nyingi utakuta kwamba wananchi wanasema polisi wanasimamisha magari wakiomba hongo. Lakini, je, masilahi yao na hali yao ya mishahara yako sawa? Je, malazi yao yako sawa? Utafika Makongeni ukute watu wameingia pamoja katika kijumba kimoja, na mwingine naye yuko hapo na bibi yake! Wewe unaweza kukubali ulale kwa nyumba hii na bibi yako ilhali mwingine naye yualala hapo? Ile kazi nyingine itafanyika namna gani? Kwa hivyo, ombi langu kubwa ni kwamba tuwawezeshe hawa polisi kufanya kazi nzuri kwa kuwapatia vifaa na masilahi ambayo yatafanya kazi yetu katika nchi hii iwe nzuri zaidi.

Ningependa tu kugusia kidogo kuhusu habari ya mabenki. Mabenki sasa yanasema kwamba kile kiasi cha chini kabisa mtu kufungua account kiwe Kshs10,000. Je, Wakenya wangapi wanazo hata Kshs. 1,000 katika mifuko yao leo? Wakenya wengi hawana pesa hizo. Labda zaidi ya asilimia 80 hawana Kshs10,000 katika muda wowote. Kwa hivyo, tutazungumzia jambo hili katika Kamati yangu ya Fedha, lakini ukweli wa mambo ni kwamba jambo hili la kufanya kile kiasi cha chini cha mabenki kuwa Kshs10,000 ndio watu wafungue accounts

zao ni jambo ambalo halitasaidia Wakenya katika sehemu zetu zote. Pia, hata kule kuendesha mabenki humu nchini, kunazo zile taratibu mpya kwamba mpaka mtu awe na zaidi ya shilingi nusu billioni. Ni Wafrika wangapi wanazo shilingi nusu billioni katika mifuko yao? Ama tunataka hii biashara ya mabenki tuiache katika mikono ya watu wachache ambao si Wakenya? Ninasema kwamba ikiwa tunataka kuhakikisha mambo yaendeleo vizuri, basi tupunguze hicho kiwango. Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono hoja hili.

**Mr. Nderitu:** Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for catching your eye. First and foremost, I would like to congratulate the Speaker for his word when he said how Parliamentarians should be served by the Government. At least, they should be given an office where they can operate from.

Commenting on the Presidential Speech, I am finding myself unable to agree with it, because it analysed quite a number of things. But the President is the one who has the hand and the hammer of saying what he wants done in this country, for this country belongs to him and his Cabinet. So, when he comes here and tells us that there is insecurity in this country, I do not know what my grandfather will say down in the village. In this country, we have a lot of problems. When I look through the President's speech, he said he had time to go round and see the unemployment, hunger, bad roads; everything. I find myself having difficulties in agreeing with him because, actually, he should have said, "on this road I have passed; there are plenty of pot holes; I would like it done", and he calls his Minister for Public Works and Housing and tells him, "let us do this", and if it is not done within 14 days, he sacks him and appoints another one who is capable of doing something, rather than giving a rubber-stamp statement here. I am finding myself in difficulty. We are talking about liberalisation. Liberalisation does not mean that the Government must pull off liberalisation. The Government must stand and regulate what is going on, because the Government is the eyes of the people and it should be serving them. I would like the Government to realise that it is its responsibility to see that liberalisation is tuned to accommodate everybody, the Government being the hand of mwananchi.

I am glad that 36 years after Independence, we have realised that people are poor. The poverty that is in this country came due to some situation perpetrated by some Government officers, and all of us have taken part in this. From the agricultural sector, I will give an example of grain farmers. I do not see why the Government should allow importation of maize when we have a bumper harvest in this country. Two months ago, 24,000 metric tonnes of rice were imported into the country, while the Mwea Irrigation Scheme farmers have 36,000 metric tonnes of rice. The market is now flooded, and the farmers cannot sell their rice because of the imported poor-quality and cheap rice, which our people go for.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has a job to do. I would like to ask the Ministries concerned - I wish the Minister for Agriculture was here - to stop the importation of grains while our farmers have got their grains in stores, because they will never market it. The Government has to stop the importation of, say, *mitumba* clothes. Our textile industry is collapsing because of lack of market. For example, recently, the Bata Shoe Company indicated that their sales have declined because there are very many second-hand shoes which have flooded the market. Is that what we are calling liberalisation? Liberalisation is not meant to crush our industries. I would like the Government to, at least, wake up, and control the importation of second-hand commodities for the good of our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the lasting solution here would be to empower the economy of the farmer and that of those who are in small industries. We have quite often talked about promoting the *jua kali* sector. When will the *jua kali* artisans sell their goods if we import even tin boxes from Tanzania and Uganda, while our *jua kali* artisans make such boxes? Really, it is terrible. Does this House feel concerned for the mwananchi, the poor man we are talking of? This state of affairs is really bad. When our children complete school, they can only employ themselves in the *jua kali* sector. They go out there; make their little good things for the market, only to find that the market is flooded with second-hand things.

In fact, I would ask the Government to look into this matter. I do not see why this country is importing maize. I do not see why we are importing sugar when our stores at Mumias Sugar Company and Muhoroni Sugar Company are full of the commodity. I do not see why we are importing rice when we have plenty of it in this country. If we have to import these grains, then, we should follow the European Union example, where---

#### ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Deputy Speaker** (Mr. Poghisio): Order, Mr. Nderitu! Hon. Members, it is time

for us to interrupt the business of this House. The House stands adjourned until this afternoon, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 12.30 p.m.