

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 23rd June, 2005

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

DESERTION OF SUB-LOCATIONS IN LAISAMIS

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Administration Police (AP) have deserted Olturot and Kurkum sub-locations since January, 2005, citing insecurity in the two sub-locations?

(b) Is he further aware that due to their absence, the residents have deserted the two sub-locations resulting in the closure of two primary schools, a dispensary and churches?

(c) What immediate steps is the Minister taking to normalize the situation?

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

(a) I am aware that the APs moved from Olturot Administration Police Post towards the end of February, 2005, when the residents migrated with their livestock to Kargi Market in search of pasture. The movement is a regular phenomenon during the dry season and not for security reasons.

(b) The APs are deployed to guard and protect *wananchi* and their property. When the residents migrated together with their livestock and property to Kargi, the officers followed them. There was no justification for the APs to continue staying at Olturot. The two primary schools, dispensary and churches have as a result of the movement been temporarily out of operation.

(c) The community moved from Olturot in search of pasture and the Government cannot force them back. Once they are ready to return to Olturot, the APs, who are currently with them at Kargi Centre, will definitely move back with them.

(Laughter)

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, pasture is found where there are no centres. Therefore, the people of Olturot, a centre which was established way back in 1960, cannot move to look for pasture at Kargi Centre. The Assistant Minister is aware that two women and three children were killed in March, 2005. One of the children who was killed was a daughter of a serving AP attached to that area. Since the APs were four, they moved out of the centre and *wananchi* had to move out too to avoid further attacks. Could the Assistant Minister assure this House that the area is safe so that those people can go back and open the two primary schools? Definitely, those people did not move to Kargi Centre to look for pasture.

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there have been incidences of fighting between the Gabra

and the Boranas, and as a result a number of people have lost their lives. There have also been incidences of fighting between the Rendille and the Gabra, and also a number of people have died too. We are doing what we can to ensure that security is guaranteed for all *wananchi*. Above all, let me say that the leaders in this region have been fighting each other and consequently, the communities have risen against each other. I appeal to hon. Members to show their people a good example.

(Applause)

Mr. Rotino: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to evade answering the Question? The Question is: How he will ensure that the people of Olturot Centre are safe?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Rotino! I know you wanted to ask a supplementary question. Please, stand there and catch my eye.

Maj-Gen. Nkaiserry: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister aware that the APs deserted Olturot Centre because of insecurity? This means that the Government security organs have deserted the citizens who they are supposed to provide security. This is a very fundamental issue.

Could the Assistant Minister order those APs to go back to Olturot Camp and provide security to the people of that area?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my answer was very clear. The APs had a camp and their work was to protect people and their property. The majority of the people in that area are pastoralists who have moved out to look for pasture. What service will the APs provide in their camp when there are no people or property guard in the area?

Mr. Ngoyoni: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Definitely, the Assistant Minister is misleading the House. He should take it from me that, that centre was established way back in 1960. It has two primary schools, a dispensary, churches and several structures. That is a very big centre by our standards. Therefore, a centre cannot move to another centre to look for pasture. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not the Olturot Centre which moved to Kargi Centre, but the people. However, those pastoralists are currently camped at Kargi Centre. On the closure of the two primary schools, the children moved with their parents since there are no boarding schools in that area. There is no way the pastoralists can move out of a centre and the children fail to follow them. That is why those primary schools have been closed.

Dr. Ali: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is taking this House for a ride. I do not think the Assistant Minister should be allowed to joke in this House. People who have settled do not move around, but nomads do. Does the Assistant Minister know whether that centre is in Kenya or in Mass? He is misleading this House.

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is not a question. I would like to emphasise that those people are pastoralists who move from one area to another in search of pasture and water.

Prof. Olweny: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister has told us that those people lead a simple nomadic life. The best way to handle that problem is to employ security personnel from the nomadic communities so that they can move along with those communities in their search for pasture and water. What measures has the Government taken to recruit members of those communities as security personnel so that they can move with those communities whenever they move to another area?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a good proposal. We have the Kenya Police Reservists among those communities and we will increase their number depending on the number of guns those communities surrender in the disarmament exercise.

Mr. Ngoyoni: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister should tell this House and all Kenyans the truth. It is the energetic people in the pastoralist communities who move with animals to look for pasture and water. The Assistant Minister should understand this. The people of Olturot have deserted it because of insecurity. That centre is at the border between my constituency and North Horr, where there is a gang on the loose. That gang has been attacking my people since the beginning of this year. Since the people who have been attacking us are known, could the Assistant Minister ensure that they are brought to book? Could he also ensure that the people of Olturot go back to their centre?

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! The Assistant Minister and the hon. Member are talking about the lives of fellow Kenyans. Could we listen to the Assistant Minister?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that a number of lives have been lost in that area. As I have said earlier on, we are aware of this and we are doing what we can to ensure that everybody is safe. The hon. Members from those areas in one way or the other contribute to insecurity in those areas. There are differences in those areas, and that is why I have said that let us rise above the conflicts our people are engaged in and provide leadership. If that is done, we can guarantee safety for everybody.

Mr. Speaker: I hope that the Assistant Minister's message has sunk into our minds!

DEATHS CAUSED BY CONTAMINATED
WATER IN BUNGOMA

Mr. Wamunyinyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Water and Irrigation the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that five people died after drinking contaminated water in Bungoma District in May, 2005?

(b) Is she further aware that the Ministry officials in Bungoma District used expired chlorine in the treatment of water, which led to the outbreak of diseases and the subsequent deaths?

(c) What urgent remedial measures is the Government taking to ensure there is no further suffering and loss of lives in the area from contaminated water?

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

(a) I am aware that in April, 2005, there was an outbreak of typhoid in Kimilili Municipality and its environs during which two students from Kimilili Boys Secondary School and two students from Kamusinga Girls Secondary School died. The two schools are served with water from Ndibisi-Makuselwa Water Supply. Although the cause of the deaths was diagnosed as typhoid, the source of contamination could not be ascertained. Samples of water taken from Ndibisi-Makuselwa Water Supply, which is managed by my Ministry, when tested were found to have no coliform bacteria that causes typhoid and levels of the residual chlorine in the water at the consumer points were found to be within the recommended level. A team of officers from my Ministry and the Ministry of Health carried out intensive inspection within the Kimilili area to try and establish the source of the contamination by testing water from institutional and community water supplies. Most of these water sources tested positive to both total and faecal coliform counts that were above the acceptable levels. In this regard, these alternative sources were suspected to be a possible source of contamination.

(b) I am aware that at the time of the outbreak, my officers in Bungoma used expired chlorine in the treatment of water. However, the chlorine was used in higher doses to attain the recommended level of residue chlorine. I noted that there was a lapse by my officers and, since then, corrective measures have been taken to ensure that use of expired chemicals does not recur.

(c) To ensure that there is no further suffering and loss of lives in the area from contaminated water, my Ministry will undertake, among other things, the following measures:-

- (i) Ensure that the water supplied to consumers from the water supplies managed by my Ministry continue to be treated to the required standards before it is distributed to consumers.
- (ii) Intensify inspection of alternative sources of water, including community and public managed water supplies, and disinfect them immediately.
- (iii) Continue conducting jointly with the Ministry of Health, surveillance inspection exercises, including sensitising the community on the advantages of practising proper hygiene.
- (iv) Ensure that at all times, there is no lapse in water treatment and particularly no use or storage of expired chemical.
- (v) During the next financial year, the Ministry intends to equip the borehole, which was recently drilled, at Kimilili Boys Secondary School.

Mr. Wamunyinyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Minister for a detailed answer and for the action that has been taken. However, you would realise that the number of people who died is higher than that stated by the Minister. The number of those who died at home remained unknown to the Minister. The Minister has admitted that expired chlorine was used to treat the water and acknowledged the fact that there was a lapse amongst her officers. I would like to know why the use of expired chlorine was allowed and what specific disciplinary action has been taken against the officers responsible.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have indicated that this was a lapse in water treatment. It is not allowed by the Ministry, and corrective measures have been taken. Having said so, I want to clarify that although expired chlorine was used, there were other possible sources of contamination that caused the outbreak of typhoid. Not everybody is served by the Ministry's water in that area. There are people who take raw water from the river, which is contaminated. Also, there are people who store water in unhygienic conditions. While my Ministry regrets the use of expired chlorine, and has taken corrective measures, it is very important that members of the public also be educated on all the possible sources of contamination, to ensure that such an incident does not recur.

Mr. Serut: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the first time students in that particular area have died. Last year, we lost quite a number of students in Chesamisi, which is just in the neighbourhood of Kimilili. The Minister told us that this was as a result of some waterborne diseases. What is the Minister doing to ensure that, at least, the water from Mt. Elgon and other areas is free of contamination, instead of waiting until people die for the Government to come and look into these issues?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have indicated that there are a multiplicity of reasons. Ensuring that everybody has access to safe drinking water is not something that is achievable overnight. In the meantime, therefore, I expect leaders and hon. Members to help us in the campaign to make people who fetch raw water from the rivers boil it before use. The river that the hon. Member has referred to is very contaminated, from our testing, because there are settlements along the river line, and there is faecal contamination in the water.

As a Government, we will take all measures possible to sensitise the people and try, within the shortest time possible, to ensure that people have safe sources of drinking water.

Mr. Bifwoli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has said that the source of the water being used by the people of Chesamisi and Kimilili is contaminated because people are living around there. I remember when there were so many deaths in Chesamisi, the Ministry had undertaken to ensure that the source was well-built and protected. However, up to now, that has not been done. What plans does the Ministry have to save water around Mt. Elgon, so that people who drink can be safe?

Furthermore, she has admitted that the chlorine that was used to treat the water had expired, but she has not told us what disciplinary action is going to be taken against the officers responsible.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not spell out the disciplinary action to be taken against the officers, but remedial measures are being taken by the Ministry. I want to remind the House that when the intake in question was constructed, it was then in the forest. As a result of wanton destruction of catchment areas and forests, people have now settled in this area. The forest has disappeared, and hence contamination of the river and the water source. It will take a combined effort of the Government, citizens and leaders to sensitise communities, so that we leave catchment areas and protect our water sources.

Mr. Wamunyinyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem of water contamination is not only in Bungoma District. Even in Nairobi, the tap water that we have is usually contaminated. In fact, even lately, we have been told that the water that flows in the taps is contaminated. What is the Ministry doing to ensure that the population throughout the country is supplied with clean drinking water?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I assure the hon. Member that tap water in Nairobi is now safe to drink ever since the reforms were conducted within Nairobi City. Anybody can test the quality of tap water. There is no lapse in treatment and the water is safe. The reforms that we are undertaking in the water sector are meant to ensure that there is safe water to drink and sufficient water for all uses. So, we have elaborate plans, which we are going to implement. We require the support of all hon. Members and the citizens to ensure that people access safe and affordable drinking water.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! We will now proceed to Ordinary Questions.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.489

LIST OF CHEPTERWAI HOSPITAL BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Sambu, do I understand that there is an agreement between you and the Minister to defer the Question to Thursday next week?

Mr. Sambu: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir. He said he was not ready. So, I concur.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! We will defer it to Thursday.

(Question deferred)

I will also deal with another Question that the Minister has intimated to the Chair that he is not ready to answer. That is the Question by the hon. Member for Mount Elgon. Mr. Serut, has the Minister talked to you about it?

Mr. Serut: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has not mentioned anything to me about it. This is the third time the Minister wants this Question deferred. I do not know what reasons he has.

Mr. Speaker: Maybe, you should ask your Question and then we hear the Minister.

Question No.345

DEPLOYMENT OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN DISTRICT HOSPITALS

Mr. Serut asked the Minister for Health:-

(a) whether he is aware that some nurses and other medical personnel recruited for the district hospitals last year refused to be deployed to certain health centres within the districts;

(b) whether she is further aware that some of the said nurses and medical personnel have refused to reside within the districts where they are deployed; and,

(c) what the position of the Government is on advertisement, recruitment and deployment of medical personnel at district hospitals.

The Assistant Minister for Health (Mr. Konchella): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wanted to talk to the hon. Member but he was not in Parliament Buildings. He came in when I was already here and I could not talk to him.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the answer. That problem has persisted because he even asked the same Question last year. So, I really want to find out why the hon. Member is complaining because there might be something. I want to get to the bottom of that problem. I will summon the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) to my office and ask him what is going on. That is what I want to find out before I give an answer.

Mr. Speaker: Is that okay with you, Mr. Serut?

Mr. Serut: That is okay with me, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! The Question is deferred until Thursday next week.

(Question deferred)

The hon. Member for Molo!

Question No.252

LIST OF KFA DEBTORS

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

(a) whether he could table the list of people who owe money to Kenya Farmers Association (KFA); and,

(b) what efforts the Government is making to restructure KFA.

The Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Ndwiga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I answer this Question, I wish to beg the indulgence of the House. Yesterday, most media houses carried stories attributed to an answer that we gave. When you go through the HANSARD, the entire report was totally untrue. At no point did we, as a Ministry, name Ministers or other personalities in connection with KFA. Secondly, the list of the people who owe KFA money was not tabled in this House yesterday. It was tabled long before we went for recess. Therefore, the reports that emanated from the Press are not correct.

Mr. Speaker: Where did they get it from?

The Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Ndwiga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the report was tabled in this House long before we went for recess. But they said that it was tabled yesterday.

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

Mr. Speaker: Can we just get it correct? Order, hon. Members! The Question was before the House yesterday. I presume it was dealt with. What aspect of the Question was not dealt with? What was left out, Mr. Mukiri?

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the list that was tabled by the Minister---

Mr. Speaker: Do you mean the document that was tabled?

Mr. Mukiri: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Do you want the Minister to come and read it to you?

Mr. Mukiri: No, Mr. Speaker, Sir. That was not the Question. I wanted him to confirm from the list that he tabled, how much money is owed by former directors of KFA and some prominent people within the Government and Parliament.

Mr. Speaker: Do we know the rules? If a document has been tabled on the Floor of the House, then that is it. It is for the hon. Member to acquire information from that document. We do not want to reduce Ministers to reading machines---

(A mobile phone rang)

Whose phone is that now?

Hon. Members: Mr. Ochola Ogur!

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order hon. Members! Could you switch off those gadgets? I want this to be understood clearly. This is the final ruling from the Chair. Once a document has been lawfully tabled, it is up to the hon. Members interested to extract information from that document. You do not ask Ministers to go back into that document and extract other information out of it. That is the law. That is how it should be. Do you have any further questions to the Minister on the document that he laid on the Table?

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the answer that I have received from the Minister, he says that there are matters pending before courts. Some of the debts were incurred in the 80s. I know that the law in this country stipulates that, after six years, that money is not recoverable. I want to confirm from the Minister whether that money will be recovered because the statutory period is over. I also want him to confirm whether he has, indeed, filed cases against those debtors.

Mr. Speaker: That is a legitimate question!

The Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing (Mr. Ndwiga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy to answer. It is true, indeed, that if a debt stays for some time without being recovered, it becomes unrecoverable. But in this case, KFA has been trying to recover those debts throughout the period. There have been efforts to recover those debts. Therefore, the issue of debt-lapsing does not arise.

Mr. Kimeto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing is very capable in answering Questions. Unfortunately, the Questions he has answered, if it is not carefully followed, will, maybe, come up in 2007. What about farmers who are owed money by the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC)?

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Kimeto! Have you ever heard of the rule of relevancy? KCC and KFA are different entities. File that Question!

Mr. Kimeto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister is answerable for both institutions.

Mr. Speaker: Order! You will take the guidance of the Chair. If you want to know something about KCC, file a Question! The hon. Member for Juja Constituency!

Mr. Gitau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, among the names of debtors tabled in the House are former and sitting Cabinet Ministers and Members of Parliament. What efforts is the Minister making to recover that money from those prominent Kenyans like Members of Parliament and Cabinet Ministers?

Mr. Ndwiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already said that efforts are being made by KFA to

recover its money from the debtors. I wish to inform the House that 17 cases are already in court. But some cases that have been highlighted by the Press do not arise. There are cases where KFA has been sued by some of those companies. For example, Kabansora has sued the KFA. But the story that appeared in the Press indicates that some Ministers owe KFA some money. I, again, wish to beg the indulgence of this House. The exercise of recovering that money is going on. But if we continue dropping names and giving stories about what KFA is doing to recover the money, we might jeopardise the recovery of some of that money.

Mr. Bifwoli: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You have heard the Minister say that the Press has reported what is not there. Is he implying that the Press lied to Kenyans about the names?

Mr. Speaker: Order! First of all, you do not use that word in this House. Can you refrain from that?

Mr. Bifwoli: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I withdraw the word "lying". I am asking whether the Minister is denying what the Press released as names of hon. Members who owe KFA money.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I do not want this issue to drag on in this House for long. Can I ask the following question: Is incurring a debt a crime?

Hon. Members: It is not!

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! That reminds me of a verse in the Bible. Who will cast the first stone? I do not think we need to make the Floor of this House a place for debt recovery! You can ask the Question, yes, but we, certainly, are not going to recover debts from the Floor of this House!

(Applause)

Very well. Let us have the last question from the hon. Member for Molo Constituency!

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, last time, Parliament---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Can we hear the hon. Member for Molo Constituency, please?

Mr. Mukiri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, last time, Parliament allowed the Government to guarantee Kshs2 billion to Kenya Farmers Association (KFA), which is taxpayers' money. I think that is very important. The answer from the Minister says that most of those debts are not recoverable because KFA staff destroyed the records that showed those debts. How far has he gone to prosecute staff members of KFA who were involved in falsifying records and destruction of evidence?

Mr. Speaker: Good question!

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Ndwiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not get the last part of the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! The Minister has to be allowed time to hear what is being said. I know the hon. Member who is asking the question is disadvantaged because of the microphones that we have!

(Laughter)

An hon. Member: Nothing has changed!

Mr. Speaker: It is the microphone! It is not picking his voice well. However, this is what he

has asked: There have been allegations that certain documents containing the names of debtors have been wilfully destroyed by officers of KFA. What are you doing about those people who, in my view, if I was asked, committed that crime? Could that be the position?

Mr. Ndwiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was an allegation that documents were destroyed. But where KFA does not have documents, it is trying to reconstruct them from all sources. Like I said earlier, I think it is very dangerous to continue answering questions in that fashion. If the hon. Member wants us to recover the debts owed to KFA, we do not want to tell whoever the debtors are that we do not have the documents. That is what he wants me to confirm. We have got the records.

Mr. Mukiri: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the Minister look at the second page of his answer. It says:-

"Many other records, invoices, delivery notes *etcetera* have been lost or deliberately destroyed by compromised staff in the passage of time to remove evidence of debts!"

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Now, Mr. Minister, it is not the hon. Member who is saying that. It is you!

(Laughter)

Mr. Ndwiga: It is true, Mr. Speaker, Sir! That is why I have said that we are re-constructing---

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already said that. What else am I expected to say?

Mr. Speaker: Next Question by the hon. Member for Kilome Constituency!

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. ole Ntimama): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: What is it, hon. Minister?

(Loud consultations)

Order, hon. Members! If I give an hon. Member the Floor, the hon. Member has the Floor! Nobody else can stop that hon. Member! Nobody!

Mr. Minister, please, proceed!

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. ole Ntimama): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that, regarding the KFA debts---

Mr. Speaker: Sorry, Mr. Minister! If you want to make a personal statement on what has been said about you in the House, it is perfectly in order. But this is not the right time! After we finish Questions, you will rise under Standing Order No.169 and make your statement!

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. ole Ntimama): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir!

Mr. Speaker: Very well. The hon. Member for Kilome Constituency has the Floor.

Question No.348

NUMBER OF S1 TEACHERS
EMPLOYED IN 2003

Mr. J.M. Mutiso asked the Minister for Education, Science and Technology.

- (a) how many S1 teachers ("A" level trained teachers) were employed in 2003; and,
- (b) what job group those teachers are placed under the conversion table number eight of Teachers Service Commission.

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

(a) The Government employed 129 S1 teachers in 2003.

(b) Following the implementation of the scheme of service for non-graduate teachers, which was adopted on 1st, July, 1996, the grade of S1 teachers became obsolete. All teachers who were graded or appointed with effect from 1st, July, 1996 were placed on AT IV Grade.

Teachers under the conversion table number eight are on Job Group J. Teachers on that job group are designated as either of the following:-

- (i) Untrained graduate teachers.
- (ii) Trained certificate technical teacher II.
- (iii) Trained diploma technical teachers.
- (iv) Diploma teachers.
- (v) Trained technical teacher III
- (vi) ATS III

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Minister for that answer. However, I would like to ask him the following question: The S1 teachers who were employed in 2003 were employed as ATS III teachers. Their letters of appointment stipulated that they should start earning a salary of Kshs9,870. However, the Government started to pay those teachers a salary of Kshs5,100, which is paid to ATS IV Grade. Why did the Government choose to ignore the instructions in the appointment letter and pay the teachers a lower salary?

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that disparity. Anyway, the Question was not about salaries. I doubt that information very much. However, if there is a problem, I pledge to check on it and correct the anomaly.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member for Kilome Constituency, could you help the House and the Assistant Minister by placing on the Table what you are relying on? Do you have any document that you are relying on? For example, do you have an appointment letter?

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can produce it.

Mr. Speaker: So, what are you relying on?

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am relying on the grading. My attention was drawn to that anomaly by one of the affected teachers. They have been under-paid for two years.

Mr. Speaker: Order, hon. Members! It helps the House if we come here with facts. That way, you can put factual questions to Ministers. We cannot help but lose our tracks, if we do not have the facts. Do you really want to continue with the Question?

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can give a specific example. There is Janet Maundu, TSC No.350798, who was employed at that time. That anomaly is affecting teachers who were employed at that time. The question of salaries is, therefore, an open fact. It is only a question of verification. The Assistant Minister can, therefore, come up with a solid answer on that.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, do you have anything to say?

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have the conversion table with the salary scales. All the teachers who were recruited under that grade are being paid according to the official salary scale. So, unless the hon. Member has direct evidence to show that there is a teacher who is being under-paid, we will not have a basis to react to such kind of claim.

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, if you look at part (b)---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. J.M. Mutiso! Who gave you the Floor?

(Laughter)

Anyhow, what is your point?

Mr. J.M. Mutiso: Mr. Speaker, if you look at parts (a) and (b) of the Question, they are very specific. Part (a) refers to the year 2003. But the Assistant Minister has decided to give us facts as at 1st, July, 1996. Those are two different years. Therefore, he should give the facts as at July 1st, 2003 and not 1996.

Mr. Speaker: Is that something the two of you can sort out? I encourage that reconciliation! Sort it out between the two of you.

Mr. Assistant Minister, do you have anything to say?

Dr. Mwiria: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would be quite willing to listen to the Member if he has evidence on which we have to work. That is not a problem.

Mr. Speaker: Is that okay with you, Mr. J. M. Mutiso? Very well, thank you very much.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

WELCOME TO DISTINGUISHED GUESTS FROM
TANZANIA AND UGANDA PARLIAMENTS

Mr. Speaker: Order, Members! It is my pleasure to introduce Members of Parliament from the United Republic of Tanzania who are Commissioners of Parliamentary Service Commission in their Parliament. They are Hon. Thomas Nyimbo, MP, Leader of the Delegation; Hon. Asha Ngende, MP; Hon. Ali Fatma Said, MP, and Hon. Eichim Simpasa, MP. They are here in Kenya for four days on a study tour to exchange notes on the working of the Kenyan Parliamentary Service Commission. Also among them is the Hon. Amongin Betty Ongom, MP, from the Republic of Uganda, who is in Kenya at the invitation of the Kenyan Young Parliamentarians Association, which I just launched this morning.

On behalf of the House, I wish them a fruitful and happy stay in our country!

(Applause)

Let us now go back to Mr. Kombe's Question.

(Resumption of Oral Answers to Questions)

Question No.221

PALM WINE FACTORY FOR
COAST PROVINCE

Mr. Kombe asked the Minister for Trade and Industry when the Ministry would set up a palm wine factory in Coast Province.

The Assistant Minister for Trade and Industry (Mr. Miriti): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry, in observation of Government policy to divest from direct involvement in business, has no intention of setting up a palm wine factory in Coast Province. The Ministry's role is to create and facilitate an enabling environment for interested investors to seize the opportunity and put up business, palm wine factories included. Through national, regional and international fora, the Ministry has and continues to explore opportunities available in different areas for possible investments.

Currently, the Ministry, in liaison with other key stakeholders, is participating in a task force set up by the Government to look into the regulatory framework on alcoholic beverages. Among the 15 Acts to be reviewed is the Traditional Liquor Act, under which palm wine falls. It is hoped that the findings and recommendations of the task force will lead to the amendment of the relevant sections of the Act, to streamline the manufacture, sale and consumption of liquor. It is also hoped that the move will attract investors, after a feasibility study is conducted, to determine the viability of the business.

Mr. Kombe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Traditional Liquor Act, Cap.122, deals with local brews. But palm wine is never brewed; it is tapped. Under which class then does this palm wine fall?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Speaker, Sir, palm wine, which is unfermented, also falls under the Traditional Liquor Act, Cap.122.

Mr. Kimeto: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since this is business that will bring international investors, why can the Ministry not get involved so as to earn the country foreign exchange?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Speaker, Sir, local investors are encouraged to invest in manufacture of alcoholic beverages. The Ministry will facilitate anybody who is interested.

Mr. Kombe: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the Assistant Minister's answer, he says feasibility study will be carried out. Could he tell us when that will be done?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the feasibility studies are on-going.

Question No.473

INCREASE IN CONSUMER
CONTRIBUTION TO REPS

Dr. Oburu asked the Minister for Energy:-

(a) whether he is aware that the consumer contribution towards rural electrification has risen from Kshs3,500 and Kshs5,000 to Kshs32,000 and Kshs35,000 for domestic and posho mills respectively;

(b) whether he is further aware that the fees are too high and cannot be met by many potential KPLC customers in the rural areas, thus hindering development; and,

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b), above, are in the affirmative, whether he could inform the House what urgent measures he is taking to remedy the situation.

The Assistant Minister for Energy (Mr. Kiunjuri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I reply, I would like to seek some clarification. The Chair issued instructions that all Ministries are equal and, therefore, there should be no Ministries whose Questions always come last. Yesterday, we were not able to answer this Question, and today, it also seems that some Ministers will not be able to answer some Questions. The Chair ruled that Ministries are equal. So, I am still concerned that your ruling has not been adhered to.

Mr. Speaker: It must! I did, in fact, say last time that when a Member's Question is deferred because we cannot reach it, then it takes priority, and that must continue. So, I think the Clerk will implement my directive.

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

(a) I am not aware that the consumer contributions towards rural electrification has risen from

Kshs3,500 and Kshs5,000 to Kshs32,000 and Kshs35,000 for domestic and posho mills, respectively. The current policy on rural electrification supplied to domestic consumer is that they have to pay the full cost of electricity supply. This also applies to posho mills installed outside the designated market centres. However, for approved rural electrification projects in market centres, the current consumer contributions are Kshs15,000 and Kshs40,000 for single-phase and three-phase connection, respectively.

(b) The current fees are just token contributions, considering that it costs the Government an average of Kshs200,000 to connect one rural consumer.

(c) I do find the charges reasonable and, therefore, no action is being taken to remedy the situation.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to agree with the Assistant Minister that the Questions which are deferred are never given priority. This Question was deferred last week, and it was again deferred yesterday, and yet, today, it is number eight in the Order Paper.

Mr. Speaker: I have already made a direction. Please, save time because I have to leave two minutes for hon. Ntimama and you can see how the time is going.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has said that he is not aware that consumers are being charged between Kshs32,000 to Kshs35,000. I have a letter by his Minister dated 14th February, 2005, which states that the figures of Kshs32,000 and Kshs35,000 relate to KPLC costs under the company's new connection policy. Is there a different policy of the KPLC and that of the Kenya Government?

Mr. Speaker: Order! At that rate, you will be the only contributor to this Question! Do you still want to go on?

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wanted to ask him whether there are two different policies; one by the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC), and another one by the Ministry of Energy, which are applied when supplying electricity to *wananchi*---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Dr. Oburu! At that rate, you will not get an answer. You have taken all your time yourself!

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that the KPLC has raised the charges from Kshs3,500 or Kshs5,000 to Kshs32,000 and 35,000 respectively. We have not done that. That is what I am disputing. Otherwise, we have brought down the connection fee from Kshs300,000 to only between 35,000 and Kshs40,000. I am not aware of the allegation.

Mr. Mbau: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has admitted that some things may not be put in place. Is he aware that even after the rural people have paid money as part of the 10 per cent contribution to the KPLC, it takes more than one year for the projects to be implemented? What measures is the Assistant Minister taking to ensure that once money goes to the KPLC, the projects are implemented immediately?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the KPLC is no longer collecting money as deposits for the 10 per cent connection fees. However, the KPLC used to do that before we came in, but we stopped that. We are accelerating the rate of connecting those people whose money had been collected a long time ago.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has stated that the average cost of supplying electricity to a consumer is Kshs200,000. This is a lot of money. He has also said that individual consumers will have to pay the full cost of supply of that electricity. Is he satisfied that an ordinary Kenyan who is supposed to benefit from the Rural Electrification Programme can afford to pay Kshs200,000? Is this the best way to supply electricity to the rural areas?

Mr. Kiunjuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no wonder politicians are always misquoted. Dr. Oburu has already misquoted me. I have said clearly that it cost the Government over Kshs200,000 to connect electricity to a consumer, but we are only charging between Kshs35,000 and Kshs40,000. So, I am not

aware of what he is saying.

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

Mr. Speaker: Order, Dr. Oburu! Actually, you are responsible for the time taken by this Question. You have taken a lot of time on the Question. Unfortunately, time does not allow us. That is the end of Question Time.

Question No.166

MEASURES TO SAVE NAIROBI
RIVERS FROM POLLUTION

Mr. Speaker: The Question by hon. Ndolo will come on Tuesday, and it will take priority.

(Question deferred)

Question No.338

MINISTRY'S ACQUISITION OF
LAND WITHOUT COMPENSATION

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Muiruri's Question will also come on Tuesday and it will also get priority.

(Question deferred)

PERSONAL STATEMENT

REBUTTAL OF PRESS ALLEGATIONS

The Minister of State, Office of the President (Mr. ole Ntimama): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to make a very brief personal statement.

This morning, I saw my picture and that of hon. Nyachae as two Cabinet Ministers who owe money to the Kenya Farmers Association (KFA). I read the HANSARD and, definitely, the Assistant Minister, at least, yesterday, did not table the list of all the people who owe money to the KFA. There was nothing in the HANSARD to make me believe that it emanated from the Assistant Minister or from a document that was tabled here. So, it came out that, definitely, somebody outside this House must be doing some malicious engineering which brought our names in. I saw the document which was tabled here in May, and there were about 400 names. How could only two or five names be picked from 400 names, unless through an element of malice?

The truth of the matter is that I do not owe a penny to the KFA. My daughter, Ms. Caroline Theiya, does not owe a cent to the KFA. If anybody thinks that I owe some money to the KFA, he can go to court.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, please, read your HANSARD. Very early in the life of this Parliament, I had cautioned hon. Members against this appetite for baying for other people's blood, even where there is none. There is no crime in incurring a debt, but you have an obligation to pay whether you are an hon. Member, a Minister or a pedestrian. A debt is a debt, whether by a Minister or a pedestrian. So, let people go and repay their debts. I do not know in what world, leaders, hon. Members or Ministers have never contracted debts. However, the only illegal thing on a debt is if you

contract it criminally. If you do it in a civil manner, it has nothing to do with this House.

I will add five minutes at the end of this Session to make the day. Next Order!

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS

(Order for Committee read)

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW
LEAVE THE CHAIR

(The Minister for Finance on 8.6.2005)

*(Resumption of Debate interrupted
on 22.6.2005)*

(Seventh Day of Budget Debate)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Akaranga was on the Floor. If he is not there, he is deemed to have concluded his speech.

Mr. Munya: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to contribute to the Budget Speech. I would like to join the other hon. Members in congratulating the Minister for coming up with a very innovative Budget, which is growth-oriented, and with measures intended to inject efficiency in the management of public affairs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the only Budget in the history of this country that did not factor in donor funding. The Minister is still confident that we have enough resources which, if managed well, can meet our financial needs. However, the challenge remains in the implementation of the Budget.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the main challenges that is facing this country in its financial management is trying to bridge the gap between the poor and the rich minority. In global statistics, Kenya is ranked as one of most unequal countries in the world with a tiny minority of people wallowing in riches while the majority wallows in poverty. Therefore, any measure that the Government comes up with, that does not address the issue of bridging the gap between the rich and poor, will not go far in resolving the problems of this country. That is why I insist that any implementation must try to take the resources to ordinary poor people. It must support small-scale businesses for the ordinary poor people and fight poverty at the grassroots both in the urban and rural areas. Therefore, the allocation of money that is going especially to improve infrastructure is most critical. Infrastructure is going to help in opening up the rural areas where ordinary people struggle to grow crops and send them to the market so that they can earn income. All the measures, therefore, that are going to support the ordinary *mwananchi*, who struggles to make a living everyday, are the ones that will in the long run make a difference in the development of this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a theory of development that recognises that we all have to come together, without catering for the higher income bracket earners, will ensure that everybody moves up so that the economy becomes strong. This will ensure that we can all earn some income and have some purchasing power. Even if we assist the industries to come up, as long as our people are poor and they do not have the purchasing power, we will be going round in circles. The measures that are intended to spread income across the country, so that most people can earn and spend, are the ones that in the long run are going to change this country. That is why the Micro-Finance Bill that is coming soon,

which will assist ordinary people to access credit cheaply, is most laudable because that is where it matters.

I have been talking about education and I will not tire in saying that even if we spend, as we do now, more than 30 per cent of our Budget in education, allocating money to education without coming up with a system of education that looks at the integration process, so that when our graduates come out they are marketable elsewhere, we will not be going very far. As long as we have our own system of education that is not relevant anywhere else in this region, we are going to continue losing. Therefore, whatever money we allocate to education, we need to come up with a system of education that is relevant and one that makes our graduates to be recognised internationally and be employed anywhere in the world. We should come up with a system of education that is recognised internationally so that we can conform to the challenges of globalization. This will enable our graduates to work in the East African Community and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). It is a shame that Kenyan students are going to study in Uganda and Tanzania when this country has had more stability than those countries for many years. We have also had the resources and we would have expected Kenya to be a centre of excellence in terms of education. Therefore, the challenge for the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology is to come up with a system of education that is recognised internationally.

The other important issue is accessibility to education. As we allocate money to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, we must make sure that the poor, whose only avenue of social mobility is through education, are not left out. However, the way we have been liberalising loans at the university level, we are increasingly making it difficult for those poor people to access education. Education is becoming increasingly expensive for the poor. We are challenging the Ministry to come up with ways and means of making sure that the education revolution that is taking place in our country does not leave the poor behind.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other most important thing that the Ministry needs to do in terms of its budgeting and implementation is targeting sectors that contribute to growth in our economy. If you have a cow that is giving you milk and you continue starving it, obviously you are not guaranteed of milk continuously. Every prudent cattle keeper makes sure that the cow that produces the best milk also gets the best feeds. This is what we are telling the Ministry. They should visit the tea-growing areas. One of the regions in my constituency is a tea-growing area. If you calculate the amount of tea that is wasted when the farmers are trying to transport the tea leaves to the factory because there are no roads, you will be amazed and yet tea is the second biggest foreign exchange earner for this country. The tea sector is also one of the biggest employers in this country. Are the priorities of this Government right if the sectors where it gets money from are the ones that it does not invest more in so that they can get more? Is the Government not looking at things upside down?

This Government needs to come up with a masterplan, especially for tea-growing areas. The biggest challenge there is the road network. If you pass there one of these days, you will see for yourself what I am talking about. The farmers pick tea during the day but they cannot sleep at night because they have to wait for lorries to take their tea to the factory. The roads are in a bad state and most of the area is hilly. However, the Government has not come up with a clear programme to see how it can address that problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the same issue of investing where it matters, the Government has continued to allocate funds to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife; for the promotion of tourism. However, what we have been hearing from the Ministry is that most of the money is still being taken to the traditional areas where we get our tourists. It is good to target these traditional areas but they may be already saturated. We already have enough tourists coming from those areas to visit this country. We need to be more innovative to target non-traditional areas where we have not been receiving tourists from. This is the challenge.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Munya! Your time is up!

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

Mr. Rai: Bw. Spika, nakushukuru kwa kunipa nafasi ili nami nipate kuchangia Hoja hii, hasa kuhusiana na makadirio ya fedha ya mwaka huu. Naungana na wenzangu waliotangulia kumsifu Waziri kwa sababu ya makadirio aliowasilisha katika Bunge hili lakini maneno machache ambayo ningetaka kuyatilia mkazo ni kwamba kupanga na kuzungumza ni maneno mawili tofauti na kutekeleza pia ni jambo jingine tofauti. Tulisikia Hotuba ambayo ilitufurahisha zote na huko nje pia ilisisimua watu wakiamini kwamba ni Bajeti ya kwanza ambayo imewapa Wakenya matumaini lakini kitu ambacho hivi sasa tunasubiri ni kuangalia matokeo na kuona kwamba Bajeti hii itaweza kutimizwa ama kufanyiwa kazi kwa njia gani.

Bw. Spika, ningetaka nianze kwa kuzungumzia sehemu yangu ya Kinango ambayo ni kame. Ni jambo la kusikitisha kwa sababu sehemu ninayowakilisha ikiwa ni sehemu kame umaskini umekita mizizi na ni wakati kama huu ambapo Serikali ingetakikana ijaribu kutilia maanani watu kama hawa wanaweza kusaidiwa kwa njia gani ili wapate kutoka katika ile shida walionayo kwa muda mrefu kufikia hivi sasa.

Katika makadirio hayo, sikuweza kupata la msingi la kuweza kunisaidia kwa sababu tatizo kubwa katika maeneo haya ambayo mara nyingi ni maeneo ya ukame ni swala la maji. Maji ni haba na kuna matatizo hasa kufikia wakati huu kwa sababu kama tunatembea karibu kilomita 40 ili tupate lita 20 ya maji, huwa tunateseka na tunapata taabu. Kwa hivyo, ni jukumu la Serikali kuangalia kwamba wananchi hawa watapata kutumikiwa kwa njia gani.

Bw. Spika, nikitoka hapo ningetaka kuingilia swala la chakula. Watu wangu wakati huu ambapo kuna haya matatizo ya ukame, kupata chakula imekuwa shida na tunategemea Serikali kusambaza chakula katika sehemu ile na kufikia wakati huu chakula kinatolewa lakini hakitoshi na wananchi bado wanaendelea kuteseka na ni vigumu kuwaambia kwamba wananchi hawajakufa wakati wanapoteseka. Ni muhimu na jukumu la Serikali kuangalia kwamba wananchi wale watasaidiwa kwa njia gani.

Bw. Spika, ninaishukuru Serikali kwa sababu ya kutoa elimu bila malipo lakini elimu ile imekuwa sasa kwetu ni kama elimu duni ambayo haitawasaidia hasa Wakenya kufikia wakati huu. Kama darasa moja linaweza kuwa na watoto 250 na waalimu wanapatikana karibu watano shule nzima, ni elimu ya namna gani itakayotolewa kwa watoto hawa ambao wanatakikana pia wawe wanafanya mtihani sawa sawa na watoto wengine katika sehemu nyingine? Kuna umuhimu wa Serikali kutoka nje na kueleza kinagaubaga kwamba uajiri wa waalimu utafanyika kwa njia gani ili kujaribu kuokoa swali kama hili kwa sababu ni kama vile tunapeleka watoto kwa vita vya dini na kurudi nyumbani lakini hatuna chochote ambacho kitatufaidi baada ya miaka minane kwa sababu watoto hawapati ile elimu ambayo inastahili.

Bw. Spika, sehemu kama hizi ambazo ni sehemu kame hasa kitu kikubwa ambacho ni muhimu kwao ni swala la barabara na barabara zetu tunazozitegemea hasa katika sehemu ya Kinango ambazo zinatuuunganisha na sehemu nyingine za Jamhuri hii ni barabara C106 na C107. Mvua ikinyesha hizi barabara hazipitiki na kupelekea watu chakula inakuwa ni shida na wanajua kwamba inakuwa ni amri ya Mwenyezi Mungu vile itakavyokuwa kwa sababu hakuna njia nyingine tena. Ni muda wa miaka 40 tangu barabara hizi zijengwe na hatuna matarajio kwa sababu jana Waziri alisema kwamba hakuna mipango ya kuweza kutia lami barabara hizi lakini tunaomba hata kama zinaweza kutiwa changarawe barabara hizi zitaweza kusaidia wananchi ili waweze kupata chakula kutoka sehemu moja mpaka sehemu nyingine.

Bw. Spika, swala lingine ambalo nataka kulitilia mkazo ni swala la hawa wanyama pori ambao wakati huu tumepata mvua kidogo na wao sasa wametoka katika maeneo yao na wameingia katika sehemu zetu na hivi sasa tuna shida kiasi cha kwamba hatujui kwamba mimea yetu ambayo tunaitumainia kwamba ndani ya miezi miwili huenda tutaanza kupata chakula, hivi sasa hatuna

matumaini kwa sababu ndovu wametoka kwa wingi na matumaini yameanza kudidimia. Tumetoa amri kwamba ikiwezekana Serikali itupe idhini tukiwaona ndovu tuwauwe. Najua ni faida kwa Serikali kwa mambo ya utalii lakini hawana faida wakati wanapotutia umaskini wa njaa na kusema kwamba tunaweka ndovu ili watalii wakija kuzuru huko wawaone.

Bw. Spika, kitu ambacho ningehitaji kukitilia pia mkazo ni swala la usalama. Maombi yangu ni kwamba sehemu ya Kinango imekuwa ni sehemu ambapo mara nyingi tunakumbwa na ujambazi. Kwa hivyo, nampongeza Waziri, anayehusika na usalama kwa sababu ya kutoa amri kwamba machifu watapewa wale polisi wa utawala. Amri ile itaweza kutupa matumaini kwa sababu machifu watakapokuwa wakifanya kazi yao wakiwa na polisi wa utawala katika sehemu zao, ule ni msaada mkubwa kwa sababu tumekuwa tukuishi na kuomba Serikali ijaribu kutufungulia vituo vya usalama hasa kama sehemu za Gandini, Lusangani na Kasemeni kwa sababu ni barabara ambayo inajaribu kuwasaidia wafanyabiashara kuenda kuchukua mifugo Kinango na kuileta Mazeras lakini Alhamisi ikifika mpaka kuwe na ujambazi wa matatu kusimishwa na abiria kutolewa na kupokonywa pesa zao zote na kila tukitafuta hatuwezi kupata suluhisho la kudumu katika matatizo hayo.

Bw. Spika, jambo jingine ambalo ningetaka kulitilia mkazo ni hasa zahanati zetu katika sehemu zetu zile ambazo ni sehemu kame. Tulikuwa na kituo cha afya cha Samburu ambacho kilikuwa na gari la wagonjwa karibu miaka kumi iliyopita na ikachukuliwa na tukaambiwa kwamba imepelekwa gereji. Miaka kumi imepita na hatujui ilipelekwa gereji gani na mpaka sasa haijaregeshwa. Hiki kituo cha afya kiko katika barabara kuu na wakati ajali zinapofanyika tunategemea kutumia wasamaria wema kuwasafirisha watu aidha kutoka sehemu za Voi mpaka aidha Mombasa ama kutoka Samburu kuwapeleka Voi. Ningeomba swala hili lilitiwe maanani na Waziri wa Afya. Jingine ni kituo cha afya cha Nyango ambacho kilijengwa na wakaazi wenyewe na hadi kufikia hivi sasa ni miaka miwili hakijapata mtu wa kuweza kukifanyia kazi. Nimesikia kuna uajiri wa wauguzi na ni maombi yangu kwamba wananchi kama wale kule ambao wako umbali wakaribu kilomita 80 kutoka makao makuu ya uwakilishi Bungeni wapate mtu atakayeweza kuwapa huduma kule waliko.

Bw. Spika, nashukuru Hazina ya Maendeleo ya Mawakilisho kwa sababu sehemu moja katika Bajeti yetu imeweza kufungua milango fulani katika sehemu zetu lakini maombi ni kwamba kama pesa hizi zingeongezwa kidogo vilio vyetu vya kupiga kelele vingelipungua kwa sababu pesa hizi zinaanza kusaidia wananchi na hasa upande wa msaada kwa kulipiwa masomo. Nina matumaini kwamba zitafungua milango mingi ya kuweza kupunguza wale watoto ambao mara nyingi hawawezi kumaliza masomo.

Bw. Spika, swala la Ukimwi limekuwa ni swala sugu. Kuna watoto ambao wanasoma na ni mayatima na hatima yao haijulikani nani atahusika kikamilifu kujua kwamba hawa watoto watalipiwa karo. Kwa hivyo, tunauliza Serikali iwasaidie. Niko na mtoto ambaye anaitwa Caleb Mwamunga ambaye alimaliza shule kule Shimo La Tewa akapata alama ya "B" na vyeti vyake vimezuiliwa kwa sababu wazazi walikufa kwa Ukimwi na ana deni la Kshs40,000 na wengine wengi na kwa sababu anayotoka ni sehemu maskini, huwa ni swala ambalo linatututiza.

Bw. Spika, Serikali ilituahidi mambo mengi wakati wa uchaguzi lakini ni kama Serikali ilikuwa inatuchemshia mawe na hatujui yataiva siku gani. Tuliuhidiwa mambo ya kazi lakini tunatarajia kwamba kama Waziri angeharakisha Mswada wa Ubaharia ingeweza kufungua milango mingi ya kuweza kuleta kazi katika sehemu zetu lakini wakati tunavyoendelea kulalia mambo kama haya, inakuwa ni swala la ahadi kwamba tuliuhidiwa kazi na kazi hazijulikani zitatoka wapi itakuwa ni swala la kuwaambia wananchi kwamba kazi zimepatikana na hali ukweli wa mambo ni kwamba pasipo mwananchi kuona ukweli jinsi ulivyo, ni vigumu kusema kwamba ahadi zile zitatimizwa. Ni maombi yangu kwamba mambo kama haya yatapata kutiliwa maanani na hata swala la kilimo lipate kuangaliwa. Ikiwa wale maofisa wanaohusika wataendelea kuangalia mambo ya kilimo katika sehemu kame, tutashukuru. Tutaendelea kuishukuru Serikali na kumpongeza Rais Kibaki kwa sababu ya jitihada zake za kuona kwamba pesa zinamfikia mwananchi katika kila pembe.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono.

Mr. A.C. Mohammed: Asante sana, Bw. Spika, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ya kuunga mkono makisio yaliyosomwa na Waziri. Makisio hayo ni kawaida kila mwaka. Ili Bajeti ionekane kunufaisha mwananchi, ni lazima bei ya bidhaa kama mchele, sukari na unga irudishwe chini.

Kule Lamu, kuna mahali panapoitwa Mkanda Channel. Kandarasi imetolewa kwa kampuni ambayo haijulikani. Inachimba kule ili jahazi zipite huko kwa njia ya usalama. Kazi hiyo imerudisha nyuma mawasiliano, kwa sababu, kila wakati jahazi linapoenda huko, kuna hatari ya kwamba, linaweza kugonga mawe na likapanda mwamba.

Bw. Spika, ningependa kuchukua nafasi hii kuishukuru Serikali kama Wabunge wenzangu, kwa vile mfuko wa maeneo ya Bunge katika sehemu zote umeleta maendeleo na kumekuwa na tofauti kati ya Serikali hii ya NARC na ile Serikali ya awali. Ni lazima tuseme ukweli, kwani huo ndio utatufanya tuendelee mbele.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaiunga mkono Hoja ya Waziri.

Mr. Speaker: It looks like there is nobody interested to contribute. Therefore, I now call upon the Minister to respond.

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Mwiraria): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Let me start off by thanking hon. Members who have discussed the Budget Speech with a lot of interest. They have made very constructive suggestions and criticisms. They have even suggested ways which I believe, it will be possible for the Government to improve on the presentation of the Budget next year.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me start off by commenting on the general criticisms which were raised by several hon. Members pertaining to the presentation of this year's Budget. I would like to refer to the Budget Estimates. Some hon. Members had said that we have changed the format of the Budget; from the old system to a new one. This year we have agreed to join the rest of the world and use the accepted classification for Government financial statistics, so that when we present our Budget the World Bank, IMF, USA and neighbouring countries like Uganda and Tanzania can compare our Budget with theirs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we did not, in any way hide any information. If anyone cares to look at Vote 19 on page 256 of the Development Estimates, you will see that we have started with the Head, Sub-Head and then the Item. The Item may not look like the one people were used to. It is a different classification, but the presentation is actually the same as we used to have. You can also see that we have, under the title, the districts listed. It clearly shows that we have done the breakdown, maybe not to as much detail as we used to do before, but the reason is that we want to conform to the Government financial statistics classification which has become a global requirement.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mwiraria, maybe you need to address us further, because in the end, there will be the procedural way of approving the works you have done over time. There are rules of procedure to be observed. Maybe you can think about it and share your thoughts with me.

The Minister for Finance (Mr. Mwiraria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we thought we were conforming with the Government financial regulations and procedures. In case our interpretation was not correct, we will think about it and we will see if there is need for any further change.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second point I want to comment on is the growth rate which was given by my colleague, the Minister for Planning and National Development, at the rate of 4.3 per cent for 2004. Once again, in the present world, there is what we call the United Nations System of National Accounting which states what items should be taken into account in calculating the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The classification we were using in Kenya dated back to 1983/1984, but the United Nations has changed this classification several times. The Ministry of Planning and National Development brought this up to date and re-calculated the GDP. That is the accepted system by the UN, the World Bank and the IMF. It really gives the actual GDP growth. This year we expect an even better growth

of about 5 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one point I really want to emphasise in connection with growth is that, I want to plead with all Kenyans, including the Press, that you cannot rely on any statistics other than those calculated properly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that if you go to any slum in Kenya, you will find very poor people. There are poor people in this country, some of whom were being shown on CNN Television the other night, but that does not mean that the economy of our country is not growing. All it means is that the economic growth has not seeped down to everyone. We will be very unrealistic to expect an economic growth experienced over two-and-half years to have reached the poorest man in the nation. Even when the G8 Group of nations developed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), they gave an allowance of eight years during which we are able to reduce our poverty levels by half. It is, therefore, unrealistic to say that everybody in the country ought to have experienced economic growth during the two-and-half years in which there was a general economic growth in our country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been asked severally to state how the Ministry of Finance spent last year's Budget. I wish to inform this honourable House that we have already started a system of assessing the use of funds through what we call "public expenditure reviews". Last year, we evaluated only seven Ministries, and released the results of the evaluation. This year, we will go ahead and evaluate more than seven Ministries. Our target is to evaluate all the Ministries, so that we can come up with expenditure details. In the course of the next two years, I will be able to give to the Departmental Committee on Finance, Planning and Trade results of the public expenditure reviews, so that it can assess what individual Ministries have achieved. The Departmental Committee on Finance, Planning and Trade will then comment in detail on the budgets of different Ministries.

We talked about agriculture and many hon. Members said that our support for agriculture has been lopsided. In all fairness, the Government has looked at agriculture across the board. We have not only looked at coffee and tea as some hon. Members would want us to believe. We started off by waiving debts for the sugar growers. It is true that today sugar growers in western Kenya are getting paid more money, and on time, than was the case in the past. What else have we done? We took over Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) and handed it back to the farmers. Dairy farmers today deliver their milk to the KCC, and get paid on time.

We recently waived debts owed by the co-operative societies in the coffee sector. I am sure that today coffee farmers in the country are happy because they are earning better money for each kilogramme of cherries they take to the factory than they used to earn in the last 30 years.

In this year's Budget, I took a further step and provided Kshs250 million to revive the production of cotton in this country. A time has come for us as a nation to revive the production of cotton, so that we can revive our textile industry. That way, we will be able to come up with our own products for our people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, those were the main point that I wanted to address. However, allow me to conclude by talking about the Government's commitment to uplifting the living standards of the people in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) in this country. During the last three Budgets, we provided funds for ASAL areas. This year, I specifically provided Kshs1.5 billion for water supply in the ASAL areas. The Ministry has gone further to state that all ASAL areas will, at least, get two new dams and boreholes. Again, the old boreholes would be revived. So, we are really doing a lot to develop the ASAL areas. Even more important, with regard to roads, I intend to borrow money from the African Development Bank (ADB) to do the Isiolo-Merrile section of the Isiolo-Moyale Road, which is 146 kilometres long. We are looking for more money to complete the link with Ethiopia. We are also working towards tarmacking the Garissa-Modogashe Road through Wajir and Mandera.

We are, therefore, doing our best and the Government has not forgotten any part of this country. If anything, I think this Government has been favouring those who were never favoured in the

past for a very good reason.

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

(Applause)

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, that concludes the business on the Order Paper. The House is, therefore, adjourned until next Tuesday, 28th June, 2005 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 4.15 p.m.