

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 16th July, 1997

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No. 447

RECRUITMENT INTO THE POLICE FORCE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is Mr. Gitau not here? We will leave his Question until the end. Next Question, hon. Kofa!

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not received a written reply. However, I will ask the Question.

Question No. 472

INTERVIEW FOR POST OF CHIEF

Mr. Kofa asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

- (a) whether he could inform the House when the interview for the post of the chief of the new Mwina Location, Garsen Division, Tana River district, was conducted; and,
- (b) whether he could give the names of those who were invited for the interviews.

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

(a) The interviews were first conducted on the 11th of September, 1996, but there was no suitable candidate. Therefore, they were later re-advertised and conducted on the 10th of April, 1997.

(b) The following attended the interviews on the 10th of April, 1997: Mohammed Dakan Dara, Zacharia G. Dambale, Michael Maro Nkondo, Mohammed A. Farah and Abdalla S. Galugalu.

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of the applicants got the invitation letter four days after the interview. Could the Assistant Minister explain this anomaly?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am afraid I cannot.

Mr. Kofa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of those applicants had been an assistant chief before, and was retired in public interest. Yet, he was persuaded to apply for the post of chief. Could the Assistant Minister consider nullifying these interviews because there were abnormalities there?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the person who was eventually picked is Mr. Michael Maro Nkondo. I have no information whether he was an assistant chief who had been retired.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister, and the Government at large, consider changing the method of employing chiefs in this country, and revert to the old system, where chiefs were elected by the people residing in the location? This is because the current method has been abused by the people who conduct the interviews. I know one person who bribed the District Commissioner (DC) to pass the interview. He is now the chief of a certain location in Central Province. The old system is where the people decided who will be their chief. It used to work very well. Could he consider reverting to that?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the election of chiefs was tried in the early sixties. It worked extremely badly. While I concede that there could possibly be collusion, I have no evidence of any kind, that any candidates have had to bribe DCs, in order to be appointed chiefs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well! Next Question, Dr. Kituyi!

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request you to oblige the Clerk's office that this Question be put on a day other than Wednesday morning. This is the forth Wednesday I am being obliged to come here early, and at this

kind of time, hon. Kamotho is busy manufacturing propaganda against reforms, and there is nobody from the Ministry of Education, who has ever come on a Wednesday morning.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: But there is somebody here from the Ministry of Education. Hon. Lengees, are you from the Ministry of Education?

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Mr. Lengees): No, I am from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am sorry, but the correct way is that, if there is anybody from the Government, he or she should take this up, in fulfilment of the policy of collective responsibility.

Question No. 268

MINISTER'S ORDER TO HEAD TEACHERS

Dr. Kituyi asked the Minister for Education what was the reason for the order given by the Minister during a meeting with head teachers in Western Province on 3rd March, 1997, to the effect that the teachers should not co-operate with the Opposition Members of Parliament.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Education? We will leave that Question until the end. But it should not be brought on a Wednesday, if the Minister is never here. Next Question!

Question No. 490

BETTER REMUNERATION FOR TEACHERS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is hon. Mathenge not here? We will leave his Question until the end. Next Question!

Question No. 249

WHEREABOUTS OF THE LATE
MR. MASINDE'S DOCUMENTS

Mr. Busolo asked the Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage in what custody are the more than two drawers of a filing cabinet of the late Elijah Masinde's *Dini ya Msambwa* note books noted in the 1954 Annual Report of the District Commissioner, Mandera, where Mr. Masinde was detained.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Home Affairs and National Heritage? We will leave that Question until the end. Next Question.

Question No. 168

SALE OF WATER METERS TO
NAKURU MUNICIPALITY

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi asked the Minister for Local Government:-

(a) whether he is aware that water meters worth several thousand shillings, most of which were from the Department of Water of the City Council of Nairobi, were sold to Nakuru Municipal Council at prices of new water meters; and,

(b) if the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, what steps he is taking to bring the culprits to book.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Local Government? We will leave that Question until the end. Next Question!

Question No. 357

EMOLUMENTS FOR DOCTORS

Mr. Nthenge asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) how many doctors in Kenya are civil servants, part-time practitioners and full-time private practitioners; and,
- (b) what criteria is used in formulating emoluments for the doctors who are civil servants.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Health? We will leave that Question until the end. Next Question!

Question No. 206

DISCONNECTION OF TELEPHONE SERVICES
AT KARABA HEALTH CENTRE

Mr. Nyagah asked the Minister for Health that since the telephone services at Karaba Health Centre have been discontinued, whether he could step in and pay the outstanding amount so that the Embu Provincial Hospital, which serves as a referral hospital, can serve the residents of Karaba effectively.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is anyone here from the Ministry of Health? We will leave that Question until the end. Next Question!

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I ask this Question, I beg to protest.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Protest against what? Ask the Question first!

Question No. 399

RE-SEALING OF MAKUTANO-SAGANA-NYERI ROAD

Mr. Ndicho asked the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Makutano-Sagana-Nyeri Road is in a deplorable condition; and,
- (b) what urgent measures he is taking to re-seal the numerous potholes in this road, so as to reduce road accidents.

I wish to protest because last week, the Minister sought the indulgence of the Chair and myself, to defer this Question to today, because the answer he had at that time was inadequate, and he wanted to bring a better answer. What I have today---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the same?

Mr. Ndicho: He has only removed the word "however", and replaced it with the word "but". But everything else is the same! So, are you satisfied? Also, the person who has signed today's answer is not the same who signed the answer he gave last week.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, I take it that the Minister was dissatisfied that the word "however" was there, and now he is satisfied that he has substituted it with the word "but".

The Assistant Minister for Public Works and Housing (Mr. Mwamzandi): I have a better reply for him, and I am sure he is going to be satisfied.

(a) The Ministry is aware that the section between Marua and Nyeri is in a deplorable condition. But the Makutano-Sagana-Marua section is in fairly good condition, except for isolated potholes between Sagana and Marua.

(b) The few potholes between Sagana and Marua are being attended to by the Ministry, while the section between Marua and Nyeri will be repaired and recarpeted by a contractor.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will agree with me that this Government is not taking this House seriously. The first answer states that the Assistant Minister is aware that the section between Makutano and Nyeri is in a deplorable condition---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Which first answer? I am aware that the Assistant Minister has given one answer. You have only five minutes for this Question. Do not waste your time going through the answer.

Mr. Ndicho: But, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I seek the indulgence of the Chair because by you deferring this Question from last week to this week, it meant that I was denied another chance of asking a different Question this week. I have a very long list of Questions which I would like to ask. Anyway, we have seen that this Government is not serious. This is a very important road and I am sure you and Mr. Speaker pass through it. The road has got a lot of potholes. In the first answer, the Assistant Minister had said that the contractor will move to the section around December, 1997, which information the Assistant Minister has omitted in this answer. Would the Assistant Minister

confirm or deny that the reason why they are playing around with this answer is because they do not want to repair the road because it is not in a KANU zone and only serves people from Central Province who happen to be in the Opposition? Could you tell us where the money that is collected from coffee and tea cess is taken to if you cannot repair our road which is claiming many lives?

Mr. Mwamzandi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government repairs all roads irrespective of whether they are in KANU or Opposition zones. If we were to say that money collected from different areas be left there for the development of those areas, this Government would have no funds. All the money that is collected in the form of taxes is put together and then disbursed to various parts of the country. The Government does not function on partisan basis.

Mr. Maore: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister explain what measures they take against the contractors who do shoddy jobs on these major roads, especially now that the elections are round the corner? There will be very many contractors on the roads who will take money, share it and nothing will be done on the ground.

Mr. Mwamzandi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not aware that contractors share out money and do nothing on the ground. I do not even believe that we have a special contractor who does Government work. Normally, we advertise and the successful contractor is awarded the tender.

Mr. Wetangula: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what does this Ministry have as a general policy for the maintenance and repair of public roads because everywhere in the country you see very good tarmac roads slowly, but surely wearing away until they reach a stage where they have to be reconstructed, yet we ought to have a maintenance unit? What is the policy of maintaining public roads because we keep asking Questions and we do not get adequate answers?

Mr. Mwamzandi: That is a very good question. In fact, just yesterday, we recommended that we have inspectors on the roads to report which roads need repair.

Mr. Maore: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to deliberately mislead this House that they want to do something when the Coast Provincial Works Officer cannot get to his office because of the huge canyons on the road? A small saloon car cannot get into his office because of the poor state of the road. Would you need an inspector or the Ministry to work?

Mr. Mwamzandi: That is not a point of order. I was saying that we have decided to have those inspectors going round every district to check which roads need urgent attention.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister deny or confirm that the reason why the Government has deliberately refused to repair roads all over Kenya is because they are afraid of an invasion by an enemy? They have taken a cue from Zaire where the ousted President Mobutu refused to do roads because he was advised that making roads better in his country would only facilitate a smooth movement of the enemy in case of an invasion.

Mr. Mwamzandi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of that at all.

Question No.480

MEASURES TO REMOVE HYACINTH WEED

Prof. Ouma, on behalf of **Mrs. Asiyu**, asked the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources:-

- (a) what plans he has in place to rid the Kavirondo Gulf of the water hyacinth weed that has invaded the gulf and is spreading at an alarming rate;
- (b) whether he is aware that all the fish breeding grounds in the eastern end of the gulf have been invaded by the weed; and
- (c) what immediate action he is taking to save the fish from imminent death and destruction.

The Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Mr. Kosgey): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Kenya Government in conjunction with the Governments of Uganda and Tanzania, under the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme, have devised short-term and long-term plans to control the water hyacinth. Short-term measures include manual removal and mechanical removal. Long-term measures include biological control.

(b) I am aware that the weed is likely to have impact on aquatic life including fishing or fish-breeding areas. However, after the strategy which we are implementing, the ecology of the lake will not be adversely affected.

(c) Currently, the Government is promoting manual removal by fishing communities in conjunction with locally based NGOs.

Prof. Ouma: Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, allow me to state the following; that the hyacinth plague in Kenya today would only compare to the Small Pox or the rinderpest plague of the 1890's. For example, apparently somebody went and brought some water hyacinth from Lake Victoria or from Lake Naivasha and put it in Nairobi Dam. In two weeks, it has covered the whole dam and similar persons may spread this to other lakes in this country. I say this because if tea, coffee or livestock were threatened in the same way as fish is threatened in Lake Victoria today, you would treat this as a national disaster. It is alright to work with Kenya and Tanzania because Lake Victoria is a riparian water system, but could the Minister consider declaring the Lake Victoria area a disaster area for special treatment because we are losing fish exports? He knows that there are experts right here now from Europe and other areas which import Lake Victoria fish. They are likely to refuse our fish and we will lose US\$3 billion per year. Apart from that, it will bring a big depression in foreign exchange. We shall also lose fish meal for animal and chicken feed. Could the Minister consider declaring that area a disaster area, so that special efforts are made through international assistance to get rid of this national plague?

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is quite a long speech. We are aware and we are taking this water hyacinth problem very seriously. The measures we have taken, both short and long-term, testify to our seriousness. At the moment, KARI has infested 50 spots along the Lake with beetles. Now, this is a long-term biological control and it is actually going on although it takes three to four years for the beetles to be very effective. In the meantime, we hope to very soon procure certain mechanical equipment which will be used to harvest the weed, particularly along fishing areas and landing platforms for the fishermen.

Mr. Ojode: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister is misleading this House, since he is talking of long-term and short-term procedures on the harvesting of this weed. Could the Minister explain the circumstances that led to the death of the beetles which were brought sometime back?

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the beetles did not die.

Mr. Karan: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister and the Nyanza Provincial Commissioner were in a ceremony in which beetles were released into Lake Victoria. Could he tell this House, out of those numbers that were released during that ceremony, how many are still alive and how many are dead? And so far, what is the effect of the control of this weed by the beetles?

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the beetles are not few, but they are in millions and so, I cannot be able to count them. All we know is that, they are alive and active. If you care to look at the 50 spots we have infested, you will notice that a lot of these plants are beginning to die, which means the effect of the beetles is being felt. However, as I said, the biological control method is a long term measure. In the meantime, we hope to introduce mechanical control very soon.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Question No.447, for the second time!

Prof. Ouma: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! I have called for the Question by hon. Gitau for the second time!

Prof. Ouma: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. This is a disaster.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! Your point of order is out of order.

Prof. Ouma: Mr. Deputy Speaker, please.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think I have given the Question sufficient time, and I have decided that we move to the next Question.

Prof. Ouma: No, but I am the Questioner. On a point of Order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Ojode: What is your point of order?

Prof. Ouma: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Not on that Question. Order, Prof. Ouma! Your point of order must not be on that Question.

Prof. Ouma: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rarely insist.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Not on that Question.

Prof. Ouma: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Disallowed!

Prof. Ouma: One day your cattle will be stolen and you will know, but now our fish is dying, you do not know.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Question by Mr. Gitau!

Question No.447

RECRUITMENT INTO THE POLICE FORCE

Mr. Ndicho, on behalf of **Mr. Gitau**, asked the Minister of State, Office of the President, how many young men and women have been recruited into the Police Force and the National Youth Service from Thika District between 1993 and 1996.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, young men and women from Thika and Kiambu Districts have been recruited in the Police Force in 1993/94, but it is not expedient for me to give either the numbers or the names of those who were recruited into the Police Force due to security reasons.

As for part "b" of the answer---

An hon. Member: There is no part "b".

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Are you answering the right Question? The Question has no part "a" or "b".

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I still have got the correct answer. The Question asked: Recruitment in the Police Force and in the National Youth Service. I answered about the Police Force and I am now about to answer about the National Youth Service.

Is that correct, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Right.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Awori): Thank you. Recruitment in the National Youth Service in Thika District has been as follows:-

- (1) In 1993 there was no recruitment nationwide
- (2) In 1994, 30 boys and 15 girls were recruited in Kiambu and Thika was part of Kiambu District at the time.
- (3) In 1995, 28 boys and nine girls were recruited in Thika District.
- (4) In 1996, 28 boys and 10 girls were recruited in Thika District.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I seek guidance from the Chair. If a Question is properly framed and is forwarded to a Ministry for a reply, the assumption is that, it is consistent with the provisions of what we can investigate in this House. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister, either for reasons of hiding the truth or for some other mysterious reasons, to purport to hide behind security concerns to fail to tell us how many young men and women have been recruited into the Police Force when this House has been receiving details about other areas on similar questions?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand by my reply.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was seeking guidance from the Chair.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Are you sure you need guidance from me?

Dr. Kituyi: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I fully agree that information of this type has in the past been offered to the House. But, I think by now, Members should know that the Chair cannot compel a Minister to answer a Question. The purpose of raising Questions is partly to lay the Government bare before the public opinion. As to its competence or otherwise, and if the Minister decides that it is in the best interest of his Government not to answer the Question, I am afraid the Chair has no powers under our Standing Orders or other rules of procedure, to compel him to give an answer.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Our Standing Orders say that, a Minister cannot evade answering a Question properly put to him. We cannot set bare what is already bare. This Government is too bare to set bare any more. Can he not just be obliged to obey the Standing Orders and answer the Question as put, because it is legitimately put to him?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, you have heard.

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did answer the Question. I want him to take the answer in good faith that, indeed, we recruited boys and girls in the Kenya Police from Thika District, which was part of Kiambu District.

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the Assistant Minister says that he cannot give those figures for security reasons; it is true that he cannot give that answer for security reasons because; since 1992, when we went in full support of multi-partyism in Thika and Kiambu Districts and Central Province as whole, there is no single person who has been recruited in the police force from Thika District since 1993. This is the security reason because the Assistant Minister knows that if he says that, there will be a lot of insecurity for him and any Government officer in Thika. That is why he says that he will not give the answer for security reasons. Since 1993 to date, the Government has not recruited any person from Thika District in the Police Force. Could the Government consider recruiting young men and women for the 1997/98 recruitment period? Every time that there is recruitment in Thika, there are young men and women who come there. But when I attended one of the recruitment exercises, there were a lot of young people who came and when I told them to stand, there was none from Thika and there was none who spoke Kikuyu or Kikamba, which are the languages of the people from that area. But they were recruited, meaning that these are the

people who are brought from outside and recruited in Thika District, to pose as if they are from Thika District. Can the Assistant Minister deny that?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I deny everything he is saying very emphatically. This obsession with tribes, particularly, from that particular side of the House is what is breaking up this nation.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Nyagah: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am sure you must have heard what the Assistant Minister has said. He has said that this side of the House is the group that advocates for tribalism, whereas it is KANU and the Head of State who are championing tribalism in this country. Is he in order to accuse this side of the House, which is very liberal?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not think I will comment on that. I will treat it with the contempt it deserves.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question! Dr. Kituyi's Question, for the second time!

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the rules of the House are being flouted and we are letting that go unchallenged. I am sorry to go back to the previous Question and this is what has happened many times in this House. The Assistant Minister says that for security reasons, he cannot give us the information that is required. In the first place, which provision in our rules gives this kind of provision which the Assistant Minister uses to deny the House information? As far as I know, Standing Order No.37, paragraph (11), talks about contents of Questions. It says: "A Question shall not seek for information which is in its nature secret."

Now, this is a Question that has been approved by the Speaker, which means that the Speaker is satisfied that the Question is not seeking information that is in its nature secret. The Assistant Minister then comes here and claims secrecy as the reason for not answering this Question. Is it fair? Are we not sabotaging certain rules of the House?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Anyona, I gave you the indulgence because I know that you are a long time Member of the House who is very concerned about the adherence to the rules of the House. I must state that I consider it rather unwise of you to bring us back to the matter after the Speaker has moved off to the next Question. I think Members have to try to raise their points of order when we are on that matter. It is not proper that after I had moved---

Mr. Anyona: I did!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Be that as it may, if you agree, you should not have raised it. I sympathise with the concern of Members about the---

Mr. Ojode: About the behaviour or conduct of the Assistant Minister!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! I sympathise with hon. Members about the failure of the Assistant Minister to respond to their satisfaction. I sympathise! Nobody would be satisfied if they did not get a satisfactory answer. As I have said before in response to the point of order raised by hon. Dr. Kituyi earlier, this is a matter which I have tried to avoid labouring very much, but it seems hon. Members keep on coming back to it. The fact of the matter is that when a Question has been asked, the criteria set out in Standing Order No.37 are supposed to guide the Chair as to what Questions may be asked and what Questions may not be asked. This is strictly for the Chair to decide. Once the Chair has decided that the Question is in the proper form; it is submitted to the Minister concerned and it appears on the Order Paper. That does not mean that the Speaker has powers by virtue thereof, to compel the Minister to answer it. The point is that, the Minister in this Parliamentary system - I really did not want to make this point, but to put it very bluntly, the Minister may decide to answer or not to answer. I think it is very unwise and very unfair for the Minister to refuse to answer, but the Speaker has no powers to compel him to answer to the satisfaction of the Questioner or for that matter, even to the satisfaction of the Speaker himself. I may feel that the answer is not satisfactory; I can sometimes plead with the Minister to do a little better to be fairer to the House. But if the Government, through the Minister, has said that for this reason we cannot disclose, the Chair cannot compel the Government to disclose in this circumstances.

Mr. Shikuku: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Standing Order No.86---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Shikuku, I do not think I will entertain a debate on this matter now. We are dealing with Questions and I gave a special permission to hon. Anyona. I have already given the rider to my response to him. I could have decided not to respond at this point because I think, the point of order was, in a sense, raised out of order; it was raised when we had moved to hon. Dr. Kituyi's Question.

Hon. Dr. Kituyi's Question, for the second time.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you should have told hon. Awori that inability is not punishable by our practice here.

Question No.268

MINISTER'S ORDER TO HEAD TEACHERS

Dr. Kituyi asked the Minister for education the reason for the order he gave during the meeting with the head teachers in Western Province, on 3rd March, 1997, to the effect that the teachers should not co-operate with Opposition Members of Parliament.

The Assistant Minister for Education (Mr. Komora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to apologise to the House for the delay in answering this Question. Secondly, I beg to reply.

I did not order teachers, while addressing a meeting of head teachers in Western Province on 3rd, March, 1997, not to co-operate with Opposition Members of Parliament for I am well aware that it is my responsibility and mandate to promote education in the country and in doing so, I co-operate with all Kenyans regardless of their political or religious affiliation.

My Ministry advises teachers not to be partisan in discharging their duties since their major role is to improve the education standards for all Kenyans.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that our very public morality is so eroded that a Minister of Government can say one thing to a public audience and say a different thing in the National Assembly.

The hon. Kamotho said this; Rev. Ommani is a man of God and he can attest to this because, he was present. The hon. Munyasia here was present; he can attest to this. Mr. Kamotho said heads of schools in Western Province should stop co-operating with leaders from Opposition. Mr. Komora was not there, so I can understand that he does not know that this was said. But if what he is presenting here is the policy of his Government, can he oblige his Minister to shut up when he has nothing useful to say?

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

Hon. Members: Aah!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! Mr. Sankori, what is your point of order?

Mr. Sankori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether you have heard what hon. Dr. Kituyi said. He said that Mr. Komora does not know what Mr. Kamotho said and he should shut up.

Hon. Members: No!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! I was consulting with the Clerk at the Table and, sincerely, I did not hear what he said. Hon. Sankori, what did you allege hon. Dr. Kituyi said?

Mr. Sankori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I can repeat what hon. Dr. Kituyi said. He said that Rev. Ommani and hon. Munyasia can attest to what hon. Kamotho said in Western Province. He went on to say that since Mr. Komora was not there, he should shut up.

Hon. Members: No! He did not say that.

Mr. Sankori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is what he said.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You cannot tell the Minister who is answering a Question to shut up.

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Rev. Ommani): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for hon. Dr. Kituyi to mislead this House and the nation with regard to what the Minister did not say since he was not there?

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! We are on Question Time. I gave Dr. Kituyi the Floor to ask a supplementary question. Did he ask?

An hon. Member: Yes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Did the Assistant Minister respond?

Hon. Members: No!

Mr. Komora: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member did not ask any supplementary question.

An hon. Member: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he did.

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Munyasia, what is your point of order? It had better be a point of order.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how did you anticipate that this is not going to be a point of order? Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead this House that hon. Kamotho did not tell the head teachers and the Chairmen of Boards of Governors in Western Province in Mukumu, not to co-operate with any hon. Members of the Opposition in the running of their schools? I was there, and I heard him, Rev. Ommani was there, you must bear up to the truth. I stood up immediately to protest, and Mr. Kamotho told the Provincial Commissioner, Mr. Kiilu, not to allow me to say anything against that. Is he in order to mislead this House when he said it? So, I am putting the truth to this House that, that was said.

Mr. Komora: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Kamotho could not have ever said such a thing because the Education Act is quite clear. It states that all hon. Members of Parliament are members of school committees, members of the board and that no school can run without the leadership of the local Members of Parliament and the local leaders.

Mr. Shikuku: Bw. Naibu Spika, ni aibu kwa mtu yeyote ambaye ni mheshimiwa kusema mambo ambayo si ya kweli, na hasa akiwa ni "Reverend." Mheshiwa Komora anajibu vile anavyojua sheria inasema. Lakini anataka kuliambia Bunge hili kwamba Bw. Kamotho hawezi kuwa alisema vile inadaiwa alisema? Haiwezekani kwamba ulimi ulimtoka, akasema yale ambayo yanasemwa alisema? Bw. Munyasia ambaye alikuwa pale ametuambia kwamba Bw. Kamotho alisema hivyo. Hii ni haki kwa mhe. kufuata mambo ambayo siyo ya ukweli? Ukweli ni kwamba mhe. Kamotho alisema hivyo, na mhe. Rev. Ommani amejishusha mwenyewe, na Mwenyezi Mungu atamlaani.

An hon. Member: Amen! Reverend, wewe ni mtu wa Mungu.

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Rev. Ommani): Bw. Naibu Spika, katika huo mkutano, hakukuwa mhe. Munyasia wala Rev. Ommani peke yao. Kulikuwa na waheshimiwa Wabunge wengine. Kwa nini hawa waheshimiwa Wabunge wengine hawakusikia?

Mr. Komora: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this answer is from the Minister, and I have no reason to believe the Minister would not state what he knows he stated.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Mathenge's Question for the second time.

Question No. 490

BETTER REMUNERATION FOR TEACHERS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Mathenge is not yet here? The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Busolo's Question for the second time.

Question No. 249

WHEREABOUTS OF THE LATE MASINDE'S PROPERTY

Mr. Busolo asked the Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage in whose custody are the more than two drawers of a filing cabinet of the late Elijah Masinde's *Dini ya Msambwa* note-books noted in the 1954 Annual Report of the District Commissioner, Mandera, where Mr. Masinde was detained.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. Ntimama): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

The 1954 Annual Report of the District Commissioner, Mandera, states that Elijah Masinde filed several bulky note books with what is believed to be his testament in Kitosh. These were kept by the District Commissioner. The Report does not contain any information on the alleged more than two drawers of filing cabinet of the late Elijah Masinde *Dini Ya Msambwa*. The several bulky note books mentioned in the District Commissioner's Annual Report are not available at the Kenya National Archives and Documentation Service. The custodian of the valued non-current Government records says they were never transferred there by the Colonial Government after the department was established. My Ministry does not know what happened to them. It is noted that the books are not mentioned in the Annual Report of the District Commissioner, Mandera for the following year in 1957 or 1958.

Mr. Busolo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the Minister for his answer, but in history we are dealing with

very valuable documents regarding the peoples of Western Kenya up to Baringo, Pokot and such like people. These are the people that the late Elijah Masinde was very prominent amongst and they considered him as a leader. Will the Minister be kind enough to consider following up this matter with the British Government so that we get these documents?

Mr. Ntimama: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since 1963, the British Government had either destroyed or taken some of these important records to Great Britain. We are following these things very carefully, and we have retrieved several of them. We are trying to do our best to see whether we can retrieve some of these things for the benefit of the history and the archives of this country.

Mr. Rotino: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir it is important that records are retrieved and information known. There has been a problem in registering this *Dini ya Msambwa*, which also has followers in West Pokot District. Could the Minister consider retrieving this information so that *Dini ya Msambwa* could be considered for registration in the near future?

Mr. Ntimama: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, yes.

Mr. Wetangula: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, freedom of worship is enshrined in the Constitution. *Dini ya Msambwa* has followers in the whole of Western Province, West Pokot District, other parts of the Rift Valley and large parts of Uganda. Up to now it remains a banned sect. Can the Minister assure this House here and now that he is going to take steps to have the sect registered so that it becomes lawful? If the *Tent of the Living God* sect can be registered, I do not see why *Dini ya Msambwa* should be outlawed.

Mr. Ntimama: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that question is outside my portfolio.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am "the custodian of the grave" of the late Elijah Masinde. The late Elijah Masinde was my constituent and is buried at the heart of Kimilili Constituency. Last month we were having ceremonies to commemorate 10 years since he died. One of the problems that we had at this function was that our efforts to establish a kind of a museum, with details about the crisis in Kalowa during the brutal colonial slaughter of Pokots who had joined *Dini ya Msambwa* as part of resistance to colonial occupation, the slaughter of Bukusus in Sirisia and all the memoirs of the late Masinde has been difficult. If a district commissioner (DC) says that he has certain documents in his custody and there was a handing over report when he left office as the DC for Mandera, whether that archive has been transferred to a private holding in Great Britain or in Karen is partly a mistake of the Government. You know as well as I do that when I was doing my doctoral research I visited private archives in Great Britain. Many people with very rich details about early settlements around Norosura in Narok District have said that they would pass this information on to Kenya, but no official from Kenya has asked for it. How can we claim that we do not know about information when we have not even made the first step to find out what has happened? What effort has the Government made to follow up the original archives of the District Commissioner for Mandera to help retrieve this important trophy of national resources?

Mr. Ntimama: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have assured the House and hon. Members that we are doing our best, indeed, in trying to retrieve some of this documentation concerning the *Dini ya Msambwa* and the late Elijah Masinde himself. But I think the hon. Member, being "the custodian of the grave" of this great men, should be able to help us to get some of the information and write-ups. He has a doctorate degree and is a very intelligent person. If he does that we will put this information together and use it as the basis for retrieving some of these documents from the United Kingdom. I do not think that the present DC for Mandera District should be blamed because this matter concerned the colonial government, which probably had reason for doing what it did.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Lwali-Oyondi's Question for the second time.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am going to ask my question for the second time and second week running. Last week the Minister who was supposed to answer the Question came in after I had asked it, and said that he would answer it today.

Question No. 168

SALE OF WATER METERS TO NAKURU MUNICIPALITY

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi asked the Minister for Local Government:-

- (a) whether he is aware that water meters worth several thousand shillings, most of which were from the Department of Water, City Council of Nairobi, were sold to the Nakuru Municipal Council at prices of new water meters; and,
- (b) if the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative what steps he is taking to bring the culprits to book.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Do we have anybody here from the Ministry of Local Government? This Question will be deferred.

(Question deferred)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Nthenge, I got a message from hon. Criticos after you asked your Question for the first time in which he said he cannot be here today. He requested that this Question, and Question No. 206, be deferred. So, these Questions are deferred at the request of the Assistant Minister to the earliest possible date, possibly early next week.

Question No. 357

EMOLUMENTS FOR DOCTORS

(Question deferred)

Question No. 206

DISCONNECTION OF TELEPHONE SERVICES
AT HEALTH CENTRE

(Question deferred)

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

KENYAN YOUTHS WORKING IN SAUDI ARABIA

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that 13 Kenyan youths are being held against their wishes and are being forced to work in a firm called Mashrui Taqwa in Dubeya Kharjee, P.O. Box 766, Dubeya, Saudi Arabia, without pay or adequate food?

(b) Is he further aware that one of them, Mr. Juma Mohammed Juma, managed to escape to Riyadh and reported the matter to the Kenya Embassy in Riyadh and that the mission has, so far, failed to assist these Kenyans to return home?

(c) Could the Minister investigate the activities of a company called Al-Haramain Limited based in South "B", Nairobi, which promised them clerical jobs after they paid a fee of Kshs25,000?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation (Mr. Muchilwa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply. (a) I am not aware that 13 Kenyan youths are being held and forced to work against their wishes on a firm called Mashrui Taqwa in Dubeya, Kharjee, P.O. Box 766, Dubeya. I am, however, aware that there is a group of 11 Kenyans who arrived in Saudi Arabia in February, 1997 to work on an agricultural farm of Mofli Kwan(?) at Al-Haji, 80 kilometres south of Riyadh. The 11 Kenyans later refused to work on account that the work was too much for them. They subsequently went on strike after which they were locked up in police custody at Al-Haji for breach of contract. On 30.4.97, the matter was reported to the Kenyan Embassy in Riyadh. An officer from the Embassy was dispatched on the same day to find out where the problem was. He met the Kenyans who remained adamant and refused to resume duty. On 10.5.97, another officer was sent back to try and resolve the dispute. As a result, nine of the youths accepted to resume duty. The two youths who refused to resume duty were Ayub Mabesa Idd, who got another job in Riyadh and Mahu Ali Amani, who later changed his mind and resumed work. Thus, on 11.5.97 10 Kenyans resumed duty. There has been no further problem since the resumption of duty. During the time of the strike the Kenyans were not paid salary by their employer. Each of them had signed a contract to pay their employer Saudi Riyals 2,674, an equivalent of Kshs40,000, being expenses incurred in purchasing for them air tickets and visas, in case of breach of contract.

(b) Arising from the above, I would first of all commend our mission in Riyadh for their representation. I would expect hon. Mzee to share these sentiments and applaud the mission for effectively representing the Kenyans.

(c) Finally, I wish to inform hon. Mzee that from our investigation, we have determined that the recruiting agent was M/s Al-Hecklers(?) Agencies of Tom Mboya Street, Nairobi, and not M/s Al-Haramain Limited of South

"B", Nairobi. I am, therefore, not aware of the company the hon. Member has made reference to in the Question. If hon. Mzee wishes, he could follow up the matter of the company in question with the competent authorities.

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very sad when I stand here and say that most of the Kenyans who go to work in Saudi Arabia are treated worse than slaves. You have noticed that the Assistant Minister has conceded to the fact that these Kenyans were jailed when they refused to work. I have a cassette here which was sent to me from Saudi Arabia in which these young Kenyans have been recorded crying to come back home.

They worked there for six months without pay. According to this cassette, they were paid with rotten rice full of weevils and boiled tomatoes. These are not my words. They have been recorded in this cassette with their own voices. There is a Miji Kenda called Zanga Kenzenge who required an operation in Saudi Arabia which he was denied. He was consequently put on a plane and sent back to Kenya. He has been operated on here in Kenya and not in Saudi Arabia. This is a very sad situation. They went to Saudi Arabia with the promise that they will be given computer and clerical jobs. These are well-educated Kenyans with qualifications. On reaching Saudi Arabia, things changed. They were bundled up and put in a vehicle and sent to a farm where they were forced to work. They worked for sixteen hours a day, contrary to the earlier promise of eight hours a day. They worked without any pay and the Assistant Minister has also agreed with me that they have not been paid for six months. They paid Kshs25,000 to an agent in Kenya in order to secure this opportunity of working in Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would request the Assistant Minister to listen to this cassette and if possible, come and give us a better answer than the one he has given. Further, one of these Kenyans had gone to see an official of the Kenya Embassy called Mr. Furaha. Mr. Furaha refused to do anything and now the Assistant Minister is telling me that Mr. Furaha has done something. He totally refused to do anything. The accusation in this cassette is that Mr. Furaha is on the payroll of Saudis and he is refusing to co-operate.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans have been subjected to slavery in Saudi Arabia. If the Assistant Minister has a heart for Kenyans, I beg him to listen to this cassette and come and give a better answer later on. I table the cassette.

(Prof. Mzee laid the cassette on the Table)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Prof. Mzee, have you laid the cassette on the Table?

Prof. Mzee: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Muchilwa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member's complaint is full of inaccuracies. For instance, he has said that these Kenyans were promised clerical and computer jobs. I have seen the photocopy of one of the contracts that those fellows signed. They signed them with a thumbprint. I cannot see a computer literate person or a clerk for that matter signing a document using a thumbprint. I am replying and talking about inaccuracy. If a person is going to sign a document using a thumbprint on a contract then that person cannot be computer literate.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, secondly in that contract, these people signed that they were not going to be paid for the initial three months but they would be given food in the mornings and in the evenings instead. They have not been paid for the first three months. I did not agree to the fact that they were to finish the first six months without pay as Prof. Mzee has said. These people went to Saudi Arabia in February and they were complaining before the three months elapsed. This is why I am saying that there are a lot of inaccuracies in hon. Prof. Mzee's complaint. There is no problem in listening to the cassette, but the cassette is one-sided. One needs to listen to both sides of the question; that is the argument by our Embassy officials and also the arguments contained in the cassette. We will undertake to do that.

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter where the House is being told that Kenyans are being subjected to slavery. It is a matter that I urge the House and the Government to take with all the seriousness that it deserves. Is the Assistant Minister in order to say that a copy of the contract which he has signed by way of a thumbprint and, therefore, that means that these fellows are illiterate? First of all, how does he know that thumbprint belongs to one of those people and not a forgery? Has he subjected it to experts to find out? But in any case, is he in order to say that this is a sign that these people are illiterate when, in the registration of voters, all Kenyans including Members of Parliament and the President of this nation are required to put their thumbprint on the voters cards? Is he not misleading the House? If that can happen to literate people including the President of the country, why can it not happen to a single contract which apparently is a forgery? Is he in order?

Hon. Members. Say the truth!

Mr. Muchilwa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members should give me time to explain. I am replying. I was asked a question and I am entitled to reply. The contents of that contract are that these people would perform agricultural work which include climbing date trees, picking the fruits and loading them and so on. That is what they signed for and that is what they got.

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot tell lies concerning a holy place like Saudi Arabia where we have two holy shrines. I have enormous respect for Saudi Arabia. I have been to Saudi Arabia several times. I personally went there last year for *Haj*. I was even in the company of other Members of Parliament, like hon. Badawy. We suffered quite a lot while there. They did not trust us.

An hon. Member: Then why did you go there?

Prof. Mzee: We had to go since it was a command of Allah that we have got to go for pilgrimage. The Saudis are known to be very unkind people. I would like this Assistant Minister to take me seriously. They are rich Muslims, but they are unkind. They make Kenyans suffer quite a lot in Saudi Arabia. If this Assistant Minister does not take this issue very seriously and ask a competent source in the Kenyan Embassy to investigate, then Kenyans will continue to suffer in the hands of the Saudis who will subject them to modern slavery.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would like to once more request this Assistant Minister not to take this matter lightly. I would like to request him to listen to this tape even though it is one-sided so that he hear that side. You have not heard the other side and so, why do you refuse to listen to it? Listen to it; then listen to what the Saudi Arabians have to say and what the Kenyan Embassy has to say, and then come and give us a better reply. Your reply is unsatisfactory.

Mr. Muchilwa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is unfair for the hon. Member to stand up in this august House and condemn a friendly country like Saudi Arabia wholesale on matters which are not proved.

Mr. Nthenge: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The facts of the issues are in the cassette and we have not listened to it. The hon. Member has suggested that the House will be in a position to hear the matter when the Minister is fully equipped. Can we not defer the matter for now until the Assistant Minister is fully equipped to hear from the cassette and then bring the matter to the House?

Mr. Muchilwa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know where this cassette came from. I believe that our officers in the Embassy did the right thing. They conducted the right investigation and reported that those fellows are happy. They are working happily in Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! I take it that the cassette is now part of the record of the House. The hon. Prof. Mzee laid it on the Table of the House and what transpires from the record, therefore, will appear in the official records of the House and the Minister will be in a position to look at it. I cannot compel him, but I suppose if I were him, I would, if need be, come back to the House after I have heard what is in the cassette.

Mr. Muchilwa: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we will listen to the cassette and, if need be, come back to the House.

Mr. Shikuku: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. When you stand up in this House and lay any document on the Table of this House, you tell the hon. House its contents, and this is normally given to the Clerk who files it. Could we have this information, since it is in the tape, and this is the first time in history for this to happen, played and recorded in our HANSARD so that some of us can read what it is all about? I hope they are speaking in both Swahili and Arabic language. If it is in the Swahili language, could we have the privilege of this cassette played and then transcribed into black and white for us to read?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! It is a bit strange because when we talk of laying documents before the House, I do not think we envisaged photographs or taped information. So, without making a final ruling as to whether a tape for this purpose is a document, I can state that the tape is now part of the records of the House and hon. Members who want to listen to it can listen to it in the recording room, and I suppose what is on it can be transcribed on a piece of paper which hon. Members should have access to. On that basis, the Assistant Minister may be better equipped to deal with the issue and to come back to it, if need be.

Next Question by Private Notice, hon. J.N. Mungai.

POOR PERFORMANCE BY CONTRACTOR

(Mr. J.N. Mungai) to ask the Minister for Public Works and Housing:-

- (a) Is the Minister aware that the contractor repairing the roads between Nakuru, Njoro, Elburgon, Molo to Mau Summit, has done a very poor job from Njoro Town to the junction of Eldoret-Nakuru and Njoro Road?
- (b) Is he further aware that the contractor skipped Elburgon Town and a section of Turi Town?
- (c) What steps does the Minister intend to take to ensure that the job is satisfactorily completed?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. J.N. Mungai not here? The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

I think in view of the same observation that I made earlier regarding a Question by Private Notice on the Ministry of Health, the next Question is deferred to the earliest possible date at the request of the Assistant Minister for Health, hon. Criticos who is out of Nairobi.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES TO CURB
MALARIA OUT-BREAK

(Mr. Anyona) to ask the Minister for Health:-

In view of the serious out-break of Malaria, which has killed many people in Gucha, Kisii, Nyamira, Kuria, Migori, Homa Bay, Rachuonyo, Suba, Tansmara, Nandi and Uasin Gishu districts, will the Minister inform the House:-

- (a) The number of patients who have been admitted and those who have died in each district?
- (b) The bed capacity in the district hospitals and other health facilities in each district?
- (c) The amount of drugs supplied and preventive measures already undertaken to combat the out-break in each district?

(Question deferred)

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Question No.3 by Private Notice is my Question and I am entitled to be heard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I deferred the Question!

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as we sit here, Kenyans are dying in large numbers and here is a Question, then the Assistant Minister and the Government run away from Parliament to allow more Kenyans to die. What was there so important that the Assistant Minister could not attend to a Question of this kind that he went to do? There is collective responsibility, there are Ministers here and Kenyans are dying! Is this fair?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I do not think it is really fair for hon. Members to ask the Chair always to pass judgement as to whether the conduct of the Ministers or other hon. Members is fair. I would want to stay detached from any position that will give justification to people accusing me of taking sides attacking them. Unfortunately, I sympathise with you, hon. Anyona. The Question is by Private Notice and I think hon. Members, particularly Ministers, ought to understand that Questions by Private Notice ought to be answered in the shortest possible time. I do not know the nature of the emergency that has held up the hon. Criticos. I take it once a question of this nature has been asked even before the answer is answered on the Floor of the House proper Government Ministry begins to take action and perhaps the answer the Minister will bring would have included statements to the effect that the Government has already take this and that action. I can only hope that the Ministry has already began to take decisive steps. Beyond that, I am sorry there is nothing else I can do for you hon. Anyona.

Next Order!

POINTS OF ORDER

ASSISTANCE TO THE LATE
MUKARU NG'ANG'A'S FAMILY

Mr. Ndicho: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to stand on a point of order to inform the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation matters concerning the late Chairman of KENDA, Mr. Mukaru Ng'ang'a, who died in Sweden last week.

My point of order is to request the Government of Kenya to help the family of the late Mukaru Ng'ang'a who sent us a very urgent fax mail yesterday, telling us that they are stranded because they have no money and they want to bring the body here. They have worked out cost for the burial including coffin, preparation of the body, transport of the body to Stockholm airport and from Sweden to Nairobi as well as bringing it to Nairobi, his family, his wife and four children. The total cost is Kshs800,000 and the wife is pleading with Kenya Government and she told me to plead with the late Mukaru's counterpart, hon. Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, whom they ran together for Presidency.

When Mr. Mukaru was sick at Upsalla in Sweden, he sent a fax to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation requesting the Government to help him get funds for treatment and they never provided them. Now that he is dead, we are kindly asking the Government of the Republic of Kenya to help bring his remains back to Kenya and his family. I talked this to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation who promised to do something. I hope that this Government is going to take this matter seriously, because the late Mukaru

was a very important Kenyan who contributed a lot in the democratisation of this country and he is now dead in a foreign land.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is reflecting very badly there. The Swedish Government is looking forward to see whether the Kenya Government will help to bring home a former presidential candidate back to this country.

We are humbly requesting this Government to help the family of late Mukaru. Thank you.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not going to respond on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, but I had occasion to see the late Mukaru Ng'ang'a about two weeks ago while I was in Sweden and the same pleas were made to the Government. I do not know whether it is in order for the Member for Juja to water down this serious issue and introduce extraneous issues when the Government has taken very serious cognisance of this fact? I was personally able to meet the late Mukaru Ng'ang'a and the Kenyan Ambassador in Sweden has paid a lot of attention and also the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation is paying a lot of attention and the hon. Member of the Opposition is watering down a serious matter.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think this is a subject which should be treated with solemnity and hon. Ndicho, you definitely recall when you came to me this morning, I was very reluctant to allow you to rise on a point of order on the subject because, I felt ideally that it is a matter which is more appropriate for a Private Members Question but given the fact that today is a Wednesday, it is unlikely for you to get time for a Private Members Question before Tuesday. I spoke to you and I said that I would prefer a Private Members Question but I did, very reluctantly give you the chance to raise a point of order and I requested you to be succinctly and strictly to the point of asking the Ministry for a statement. You notice that as it were, I pleaded with you to cut it short. I think it is very important that when you give the Chair an undertaking in this Chamber that you will conform to certain standards requested by the Chair, that you do so and not try to take advantage to go into a point of debate and then spoil the whole mood of the House or for that matter, raise other doubts on a subject which I think should be treated with a lot of solemnity. I think this is now a closed matter.

Hon. Ndicho has raised his concern and he has heard hon. Sunkuli as a Minister of the Government although he has said he is not replying on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation. I think this is now a closed matter as far as the Chair is concerned.

Next Order!

Mr. Ndicho: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. That was not what I implied. What is wrong with saying that Mukaru Ng'ang'a vied for the Presidency in 1992? In any case, hon. Sunkuli was with the late Mukaru Ng'ang'a two weeks ago. But the fax I have was faxed yesterday---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Ndicho! When the Chair says it is the end of the matter, it should end there. If you are dissatisfied, you can always see the Chair later. I have explained and I would not want to go into the details of what we discussed earlier. I gave you the Floor because I know that this is a very sensitive matter which we should treat with due solemnity. All I did was to appeal to you from both sides of the House, particularly starting with hon. Ndicho that in future, when you give such an undertaking, you should respect it because you are spoiling the whole mood. This is turning into an inter-parties combat on the Floor of the House and I do not think it is really fair at all to the person whom we are seeking to assist. Next Order!

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT SOUGHT:
CLOSURE OF UNIVERSITIES AND
KENYA POLYTECHNIC

Mr. Anyona: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. You remember that I had seen you earlier about this issue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am rising on a point of order to seek a Ministerial Statement from the Ministry of Education on the closure of University of Nairobi, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and the Kenya Polytechnic. This is a very serious matter. As much as we all want reforms, there must be no reforms at the expense of our children, parents and the country. While we are agitating for reforms, the children must go to school and this country must run.

At the moment or when the universities were closed, some students were doing examinations. I am a parent and I have a child in the University of Nairobi who has been there for the last seven years. Every time they are just about to finish, the university is closed. These children had their exams interrupted. There is a backlog of university entrants and many children in this country cannot go to the university because every time they are about to go there, the universities are just closed. We are now talking about an atmosphere for reforms and the general elections---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Anyona, I would not like to interrupt you, but I keep on reminding Members and I know that you are quite capable of remembering it and doing what I have been requesting Members to do. A point of order is not an occasion for debate. It should be succinct enough to ask for the statement, as you said you wanted to ask the Government, without going into the arguments which, if you were moving a Motion, you would be perfectly in order to do. I do not think it is proper for you now to take this opportunity to engage in debate. There is no matter to be debated before the House.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I appreciate that. In fact, I was going to finish. But the difficult we have is that if one does not state the terms of the statement, one would come here and get a statement that does not answer the issues raised. That is the problem we have! So, we are trying to set the parameters within which we want the statement. Otherwise, it would all be a waste of time. All I was saying is: Can we have a Ministerial Statement as to when the universities are going to open again, so that our children can continue to learn when we continue to govern this country and undertake reforms for a better Kenya? Let us have a statement from the Ministry.

The Assistant Minister for Education (Mr. Komora): I am not going to respond now but next week.

MOTIONS

ESTABLISHMENT OF SOYA BEANS PROCESSING PLANT

Mr. D.D. Mbela: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:-

THAT, considering the dire need to develop and expand the livestock industry in Kenya; being aware that soya beans extract additive is an invaluable component in the protein enrichment of animal feed; also being aware that soya beans can be grown in many areas of Kenya including the Coast, Nyanza and Western provinces; and considering that other components of animal feed like wheat, maize, millet etc, are readily available in the grain sector of this country; this House urges the Government to establish, as a matter of great national importance, a soya beans processing plant preferably in the Coast Province to facilitate the availability of appropriate, cheap and adequate animal feed to livestock farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am delighted that this Motion has come up at a time when we are discussing the Vote of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. This Ministry in some countries, is mainly referred to as the Ministry of food. This Ministry is closest to the hearts of wananchi in this country because without food, there is no life. I am also delighted that my kinsman has been entrusted with this Ministry at this time and we would wish to say to the House that, in the typical Taita hard working spirit, we should expect a considerable amount of activity from this Ministry during the tenure of office of my colleague from Taita/Taveta.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the soya bean is a crop that is getting considerable prominence and importance as a protein additive, not only for animal feed but also for human protein supply.

Currently, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, soya beans supply 20 per cent of the world supply of fats and oil which is more than the contribution that can be made by any other single source of fat and vegetable oil, including the animal sources. Nearly all the soya beans produced in the world is very rich in protein and is used in Kenya for the production of livestock feed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya, like the rest of Africa is presently lagging behind in the propagation of this particular crop. Although, prominence in the world has gained considerable importance, the interesting thing to note is that whereas the world production of soya beans stands at 100 million metric tonnes in the whole world, Africa only produces a paltry 400,000 metric tonnes. Of that 400,000 metric tonnes in Africa, Kenya produces less than 1,000 metric tonnes, and Kenya being an agricultural country, that is an indicator of something amiss with our agricultural planning at the present time.

Unfortunately, Kenya has lagged so far behind that even Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Zambia have done better in this crop than Kenya. Those countries produce about 10,000 metric tonnes each a year as opposed to Kenya's less than 1,000 metric tonnes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a look at the records in Kenya shows that research activities have been going on in this country for a very long time since early 1960s. It is noted that several symposiums have been held and research papers written in Kenya by various organisations, including KARI, FAO, BAT, Unga Ltd; ILRAD, the American Soya Beans Association, just to mention a few, and the purpose of these are all to promote the use of soya beans and soya beans project in Kenya and other African countries.

It is also important to note that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, and the Government as a whole has produced various papers on this issue; and that by the year 1985, there had been positive

pronouncements towards the production of this crop. I personally have an interest in this crop because I come from an ASAL area which seems to have been neglected considerably in expanding agricultural produce, all efforts having been concentrated in the affected development of the traditional agricultural crops, like coffee, tea, sugarcane, pyrethrum and other major crops. Crops such as soya beans, cotton, coconuts and cashewnuts, particularly those affecting my own area seems to have received a raw deal. It is in that spirit that I would like to appeal to the Ministry to look seriously into this issue of the growing of soya beans in this country.

I am aware that after 1985 when reports and policies had crystallized substantially, the Government proposed to establish a soya bean oil extraction and refinery project at the Coast, particularly in Mombasa. Unfortunately, because of the difficulties in funding that our Government went through from 1990-1994, this very healthy and good project fell by the wayside for lack of funding and, at present, it is completely at a standstill. It was my intention to delve into the issue of this subject because I am fully aware that it is the problem of funding that put this project to a stop. However, the project is singularly important in that it is part of the project that should have been allocated to Coast Province and like Ramisi Sugar Factory, Cashewnut plant and others seems to have fallen by the wayside. I feel strongly that the Ministry should now come out boldly and support this particular project. Be that as it may be, this project should be revived this time with a deliberate policy to propagate the growing of soya beans in the Coast Province, particularly in parts of Taita Taveta, Kwale, Kilifi, Tana River and even Lamu Districts. These areas can be supplied with irrigation water because two major rivers criss-cross these areas and the lower parts of the Coast Province have sufficient rains to enable the growing of two crops by model schemes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, irrigation would have to take an important part in the future development of agriculture, if at all Kenya is to feed its people in these ASAL areas which have since been neglected. Coconuts, simsim, cotton and cashewnuts can grow very well in these areas, and some areas of Ukambani, which suffer similar predicament as my Constituency in Voi can also benefit from this kind of project.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that this project could very conveniently be established in Voi. Voi Town is very well placed centrally, connecting most of Kenya to all directions from the Coast, Ukambani and from Tanzania, where we expect a good crop of this type to come by. There is rail and road connections which would facilitate movement, and at the same time, I would like to appeal to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to also look at these ASAL areas with a view to providing them with agro-based industries of the type that we are proposing on the soya beans factory. It does not have to be as large as the major factory because at present, there are Jua-Kali oil refining units in the Coast Province, and that can be spread to most of these areas so that they get crude form of the oil and then they can move the produce thereafter. Water and electricity are readily available, Voi being not too far from the Mzima Water Supply and Tsavo Water Supply. Other amenities are also available.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the need for soya bean products in the support of the livestock industry cannot be over-emphasised. Current statistics show clearly that the livestock industry is going down. Every year, we are losing as much as 15 to 40 per cent of our livestock. This happens to be a serious matter. Of late, the cattle population has been decreasing at 15 per cent per annum in very important areas like Tana River which produces a lot of cattle, Kajiado, Baringo and other areas in Eastern and North Eastern Provinces. These are areas which can grow into important economic areas for this country. We have concentrated on agriculture for a very long time. Unless we diversify to other areas, particularly in the area of livestock, Kenya might find itself unable to feed its people, on the grain side, and similarly, on the proteins side.

So, it is important to put great effort, to see how we can supplement the dairy industry by both producing high grade cattle using the zero grazing method, and having enough stock-feed for them. Currently, we are using maize jam and cotton cakes and other similar smaller products that we have in the country for feeding our cattle. But as we and the Ministry are aware, even the milk production is going down in Kenya. Unless we find a formula to improve this situation, we shall move over from failing to feed our people in grains, to failing even to give them the imported grains. The cattle population has decreased by 40 per cent in Tana River and Kajiado districts, and 35 per cent in Baringo.

The sheep population throughout the country has decreased by 24 per cent, almost on an annual basis over the last three years. Somebody might think that perhaps our consumption level has gone higher, but it is the production level that is of great worry. If we are consuming and not producing, then we are in trouble.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the soya bean is a crop that is not difficult to grow. The statistics and studies in bio-meteorology and related studies have shown clearly that we have the range of areas that can grow this crop very easily. With minor irrigation in some areas like Taita, Tana River and Ukambani, this crop can supplement our food supply considerably. Soya beans can also be used in the oil refinery industries for production of vegetable oil. Organisations like the East African Industries should be requested by the Government to champion the growing of soya beans and other closely related products, so that we can cut down on our bill of importing palm oil all the way

from Malaysia, when we have coconuts. Coconuts together with soya beans can save the currency used to import palm oil.

Similarly, soya beans can be used in very small quantities for animal feeds and yet have very high returns. It is important that Kenya moves into industries that can build up the future of the livestock industry. Although I have emphasised more on the livestock industry, soya beans are becoming an extremely important crop for various reasons. It is used in the production of many other items like cement. It is mixed with water for cement to make the cement water-proof. It is used in the production of paint, and in many other ways.

As I said earlier, the arid areas need to be supported by this Government. They should be given some impetus to grow the crops that can grow in those areas. We have been growing maize in arid areas and getting nothing. There are returns of one or two bags per acre in areas like Voi, instead of 40 or 50 bags. It is important that the production of soya beans be encouraged by the Government. It might be that the results may not be forthcoming as soon as we wish. But this is a crop which can grow within three to four months prior to harvesting. This means that if the Ministry can emphasise on this crop, and on its diversified use in other areas, this country can get out of the cocoon of failing to feed itself in proteins over the next few years, and cover up the gap.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to bore you with a lot of statistics that we have, but I would like to finish by saying that the time has come for the Kenya Government, to start picking up basic but very important crops and supporting them very strongly. Possibly, the Government can use other authorities. For example, the Minister can make a supplementary legislation, and declare some authorities for various areas. I would appeal to the Minister to consider establishing a soya beans authority, to handle the soya beans growing in this country. In this way, it can spread to other areas.

With those few words, I beg to move.

Mr. Murungi: I wish to thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to second the Motion. I have very good reasons for seconding this Motion because we introduced soya beans in South Imenti when I was elected in 1993 and they are doing very well. In fact, our people call them "Kiraitu beans" because they are associated with me. I am very happy that I will be remembered in South Imenti for a long time.

I must say that we have also advanced because every morning I drink soya uji. This uji provides me with both starch and proteins. It is very good uji. It is called Nutri Uji and I would advise all Kenyans to switch to this tasty uji.

First, I would like to thank the GTZ Soya Bean Project which has played a critical role in promoting soya beans awareness in this country. I know that the GTZ Soya Bean Project has gone into great lengths in doing soya beans trials in this country and they have brought in seed plasma from such countries as Equado, Columbia, Brazil, Nigeria and Zambia. All those various seeds have been tried in this country and I do know that 36 varieties were tried at Mitunguu in my constituency and three of them were doing very well.

Soya bean is of high nutritional advanced commercial values and possibilities. In fact, we are told that in United States of America they say soya beans means good health and lots of dollars. So, we would like soya beans in Kenya to mean good health and lots of shillings. The normal soya beans will contain about 45 per cent protein, 22 per cent fat, 32 per cent carbohydrates and 14 per cent water. A kilo of soya beans should contain 4,253 calories which is very good. We think it is high time the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing took this crop much more seriously than it has done in the past because it is the answer to rural poverty and malnutrition in this country.

The story of soya beans starts in China. In fact, it is said that the survival of China as a nation depends on soya beans because for a long time soya beans was the only source of protein for the millions of people in China. The United States of America is a good example of how a deliberate government policy and a combination of government and private sector efforts can be used to promote soya beans. Soya bean is not natural to USA. In fact, it was introduced to the USA from East Asia in 1804. The American Soya Bean Association was formed in 1920 to promote soya bean production in USA. The Government took interest in soya bean production in the USA during the Second World War in 1940's when it sent researchers all the way to China. It improved varieties and production in the USA and soya bean became a war crop. The USA produced soya as a war crop for producing nutrients for the people fighting in Europe and today, USA is the greatest producer of the crop.

So, with the effort and good Government policies and a combination of effort from the private sector, Kenya can become a top producer of soya beans in this region. Although Kenya has a very great potential for soya bean

production, we have not really exploited that potential. I have *Soya News* which is a quarterly magazine now being produced by the National Soya Bean Association. I will share it with the Minister. This is a quarterly magazine on soya production in the country. I would like the Ministry to receive it and read it.

According to the *Soya News*, trials conducted in Mwea in Embu are very promising because they say that the latest results indicate a potential to yield 1.6 tonnes per hectare at the Mwea Scheme. They say that, that would boost the annual farmer profit by about Kshs9,000 per annum, of course after reducing the cost of labour, intermediate input and all that. There is great potential and what we need is to focus on the crop.

Yesterday, I was talking to Mr. Cornelius Muiruri, who is the chairman of the National Soya Bean Association and he told me that the annual demand for soya bean in the country is 800,000 tonnes and of that demand we are only providing 500 tonnes per annum. This is terrible underproduction. Much of our soya requirements are met through inputs especially from India, Brazil, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia. According to *Soya News*, the copy which I have, they say that prices of soya in this country can be very good. They say that in Busia it is going up to Kshs55 per kilogramme. We had grown 30 tonnes in South Imenti in 1994. They were hit by drought, but we sold them at between Kshs25 and 32 per kilogramme. So, we think that there is no reason why we should continue importing soya beans into this country when there is a potential for its production.

We also cannot eradicate malnutrition in the country without soya beans. In addition to making soya cake, there is no reason why we cannot have soya Githeri, ugali and chapati being eaten in our villages every day. Thailand has managed to eliminate malnutrition through introducing soya in their School Feeding Programme. Here we are using milk which is quite expensive. I think if we introduced soya into the School Feeding Programme in Kenya, we can reach more students, promote better nutrition of those students and create a big market for domestically produced soya.

It is a pity that the Government has not taken the soya production in this county as seriously as it should. Our principle constraint right now is provision of seeds. The farmers are harassing me wherever I go in South Imenti asking me how they can get soya seeds. There are no certified soya seeds in the market. In 1994, I wrote to hon. Simon Nyachae, the then Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing and asked him to provide us with seeds in Meru District. He said they would look into the matter, but to date the Government has not responded. We bought seeds from Uganda which were meant for consumption and planted them. There was a very poor germination rate. I think we lost about 20 per cent of the crop that we planted. There is need for the Government to look into this area. They should find ways of producing certified soya seeds and advise farmers on which variety to plant because when we planted the first variety, we lost almost the entire crop.

We would also like the Government to support the National Kenya Soya Bean Association to promote the awareness of soya bean production in this country. We would also like the Government to promote research.

With those few remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Masinde): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I stand in fact, to congratulate the hon. Member who brought forward this Motion which is very important. It also comes in when the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing's Recurrent and Development Expenditures are being discussed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the hon. Member on the issue of encouraging the growth of soya beans, as well as establishment of a factory to facilitate proper animal husbandry, I think, the most important element here is the human being. Soya bean is very good for the health of mwananchi and it should start off there, so that mwananchi gets the principle of what has been removed from the soya beans as animal feed. Yesterday a number of Members while contributing to the Motion brought up by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing lamented about oil production and importation into this country while in reality, we have coconut palms at the Coast and elsewhere which could be used intensively for producing oil instead of importing cheap oil from other parts of the world and, thereby, spending the most needed foreign exchange unnecessarily.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as I am concerned, this Motion should include not only the growth

and encouragement of soya beans, but also sunflower, groundnuts, simsim, cotton seeds and even sugarcane. All these produce oil. Before we can get to cattle cake or whatever, we would need to press oil out of the soya beans and these other related crops so that the residue can be used to feed animals. In fact, soya bean would be a very good substitute for meat, in bringing about good nutrition for our children and even mature wananchi.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we could use the residue of soya beans, groundnuts and simsim after extracting the oil as cakes for both human and animal consumption. It is only the oil from sunflower and cotton seed that can be used by human beings and the cakes by animals. It is, therefore, important that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing seriously encourages the growth of the soya beans and other related oil producing crops that I have mentioned, so that wananchi can produce, as much as possible, and use it locally as well as for export.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Murungi has talked about proper seeds. It is true that at the moment, everybody is craving to grow soya beans, especially in Western Province and more so, Kakamega and Busia Districts. There is encouragement from the agricultural staff to grow soya beans and quite a bit is being imported through dubious means from Uganda. Soya beans from Uganda are not graded and as such, if we use them for seed, we will not get good harvests. It is in fact, very important and very easy to have soya beans cultivated. In Busia, for example, it matures only after two and a half months and they are ready for the market. However, while we encourage soya beans to grow, the growers must also be guaranteed as far as the prices are concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the growing of soya beans was encouraged by the representative of FAO in Nairobi, who went to Mumias and encouraged the growth of soya beans to be inter-planted between the sugar cane farms and so on. At that time, everybody was very interested because soya beans were going at Kshs70 per kilo. But when everybody took up the growing of soya beans, the prices went down to Kshs23 per kilo, and then people abandoned the growth of soya beans. This has also happened to sunflower, cotton and groundnuts. Fortunately, we have a lot of areas in this country where this crop can be grown. Nearly the whole of Coast, Nyanza Provinces and a greater part of Western Province along the Uganda border can grow this crop. However, we need the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to encourage and give farmers proper husbandry of growing this kind of crops and also be able to make sure that there is enough for consumption locally. For example, right now the Unga Group of Companies have a company in Nakuru which buys soya beans and at the moment, it is grossly short of the supply. They are looking for soya beans right through Busia District and into Eastern Uganda to get the soya bean for the animal cake in Nakuru. Now, they do not have enough supply, and therefore, it would be very difficult to get another factory established at the Coast, when the one in Nakuru is completely under-utilised. Farmers, therefore, all the way at the Coast and Western Province should be encouraged and be given attractive prices.

On the other hand, with the current liberalization as well as privatization, while I do not want to speak for the Ministry, I am not sure whether I should call upon the Government to establish a factory at the Coast is appropriate. I feel that the Government should be able to help to encourage the investors to come and invest at the Coast. But investors will also want to come when they are sure that they have enough supply of the raw materials in the locality or elsewhere, where it can be easily available. So, the starting point is for us or for the Government to help mwananchi to make sure that seeds are available, proper crop husbandry is applied, and extension agricultural staff are ready and available to advise the farmers to that effect.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the production of cakes or animal feeds is not only restricted to these crops that we have mentioned. Sugar cane is a very important supplier of cattle feed. After the sugar cane has been crushed and sugar has been sorted out, we have molasses which is a very important component for animal feed. During the recent drought, molasses helped cattle keepers as food for their animals by mixing molasses with very dry grass, so that they are able to produce good and sufficient milk. It is therefore, important that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing acts on this. I want to appeal to the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, who is here to ensure that revival of Ramisi Sugar factory is acted upon urgently. He should also ensure that the establishment of Busia Sugar factory is handled with immediate effect.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Minister, would you like to reply?

The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. D.M. Mbela): I will be replying but---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): I just wanted to know. I have given the Floor to hon. Otieno. Why do you not come later in the day, listen to views of the hon. Members, then you sum them up?

Mr. Otieno: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are really talking about inadequate integration of our agricultural and livestock sectors. We have not developed adequate mechanisms to ensure that sufficient investment funds flow into the agricultural sector. Only yesterday, the Minister told us that credit to the agricultural sector has been reduced to hardly two per cent of the total domestic credit in the economy. The Government's target had been as

high as 17 per cent which means that, the agricultural and livestock sectors are grossly starved of the necessary investment funds needed to cope with domestic requirements. It is certainly a shame that we have to import major food products into a country that has had the history of being an agricultural country. There is no way that we could compete with the rest of the world, unless we develop our skills domestically to be able to compete.

As regards the Motion that we have today, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing must come out with a clear programme to develop the oil crop sector. This should cover cotton, sunflower, soya beans, cashew nuts, ground nuts, coconuts and all the other crops that can produce oil for us. I would suggest that as an initial measure, the Ministry should be able to use the powers conferred on the Minister by the Agriculture Act, Cap.318, Section 191 and immediately establish an oil crop development authority to promote the development of oil crops in the country as whole. It may not be sufficient in future to just foster the oil crops. We will need an institution with adequate powers to invest in the sector. Not only to invest in growing and milling of these products, but similarly invest in the development of the products that will use the various raw materials. Similarly, efforts should be made to invest in the development of other by-products from these particular crops. That is something that can be done quickly. But where would the funds come from? I think by now, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing knows very well that, while it continues to expect money from Treasury for the development of the essential sub-sectors in our agricultural and livestock, those funds are not going to come easily from the Treasury. It is important, therefore, that the Minister devises mechanisms within his Ministry through which those funds would be made available. We are currently spending in excess of Kshs2 billion importing edible oils into this country. There may be some import duties already levied. There would be no problem instituting a levy to sustain the oil-crop development authority in the country. A small levy would guarantee that we have a fund that would maintain the oil-crop development authority.

QUORUM

Mr. Nthenge: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think we have no quorum. Can we, at least, have a quorum in the House? He is talking to himself. We are only ten hon. Members in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): He is talking to you. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! We have a quorum now. You may proceed, Mr. Otieno.

Mr. Otieno: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Before I was interrupted, I was saying that what we need is to design, devise and implement mechanisms by which adequate funds will be able to flow into the agricultural sector. If this can be done independently by way of establishing an authority and a levy that would finance such an authority, it will be possible for the oil crops sector to find the means by which it can be developed in this country.

As regards the sugar sector, we have been able to successfully use the Kenya Sugar Authority (KSA) to finance the sector. The Horticultural Crops Development Authority (HCDA) is another success, which can be developed further as the sector grows. The Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA), similarly was established and the tea sector is a success in this country. So, we can have a very successful Oil Crops Development Authority if we would levy some amount of money on imported edible oil. Alternatively, the Minister could find any other means by which funds could be channelled to that authority to develop the sector. It is over due I would like to say that the KSA should outgrow the advisory role that it was given when it was established in 1973. It is now time that the KSA began to operate as a development finance institution; instead of just advising on prices, cane development, research and on such other testing mechanisms and quality control.

A large authority like the HCDA or the KSA should now begin to be the implementor of policies on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, and should quickly outgrow the advisory role which they were initially designed to do. We need to give such authorities now the power to invest in the sector; the power to invest in the growing of the crop; the power to invest in the milling and the power to invest in the marketing. In other words, it should be possible, for example, for the KSA to invest jointly with other development financial institutions, or any other commercial bank into the establishment of new sugar factories. As of now, we need three large sugar factories to be commenced in Busia, Siaya and another one in South Nyanza. I am sure we need more than ten small mini-sugar factories in different parts of the country. We are talking of investment requirements in excess of Kshs50 billion. This money is not going to come from the private sector without incentives being given to facilitate the smooth flow of those funds from the private sector, both locally and internationally. So, I am happy the

Minister did announce that the KSA would be re-structured, possibly, even the HCDA would need to be re-structured. If he is able to commence an Oil Crop Development Authority, he would be able to look for funds to support the Ministry in a sustainable manner on a long-term basis so that the sector expands without being limited by the Exchequer sources of funds.

We need this authority to have the power to develop, not just the end product, but even the by-product. In the sugar sub-sector, there are so many by-products that can be good small scale industries in the countryside. These include sectors like the jaggery sector, even the sweets manufacturing sector, the animal-feed sector and the biological fertilizer sector. All those could be done if we had adequate funds flowing to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing and to the sugar sub-sector. To raise the massive requirement of over Kshs50 billion in new investment, the re-structuring has to be carefully thought out so that these authorities do not just advise, it is time we made them come to do things. The key institutions should be as independent as possible. As of now, the directors of the authorities are largely civil servants. Civil servants are stagnating the growth of a number of these authorities. It is time we made them accountable to the users, growers, millers, of course, under the supervision of the Minister. If we make the Board to be composed by three-quarters of civil servants, we are not going to get adequate growth, development and expansion of this authority.

It is time, therefore, that the Ministry, in the re-structuring efforts, devised mechanisms by which these authorities could expand. A new sector, which is so urgently needed, like the oil development sector, can be able to take off so that in future, I am sure in this country, with all the semi-arid land that we have, this country is capable of getting self-sufficient in the production of the oil crop. The self-sufficiency objective should be a mandate of this new institution. Self-sufficiency in sugar production should be a mandate for the Kenya Sugar Authority. Self-sufficiency in oil crop should be a specific mandate for an oil crop development Authority.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

The Minister Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. D.M. Mbela): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity to contribute to this very important Motion. I support the spirit of the Motion, but I will propose some minor amendments in order to put the Motion in line with the Government policy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya spends upwards of Kshs2 billion to import edible oils for our various activities. We have carried out a study within the Ministry and come to the conclusion that there is merit in starting the type of Development Authority that Mr. Otieno was talking about. But even before that, I would like to propose that there is a very urgent need to make certified seeds available to the farmers to be able to carry on with the farming of the crop.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to propose the amendment because, as you know, the Government has reformed itself and does not trade. What I am trying to say is that the Government recognises the private sector as the engine of growth. We feel that anything to do with business can be done more efficiently by the private sector than by the Government. I am proposing that the Motion be amended by adding the words "to encourage private investors" after the word "Government" in the sixth line.

I feel that it is important for us to have facilities to be able to improve livestock farming in this country because livestock production is an activity that supports more five million Kenyans. Those Kenyans do not have anything else to depend on, and if their earnings can be improved this could help them a great deal. Yesterday I had the chance of moving the Vote of my Ministry and one of the things I said was that the 4,000 dips which are still functional will be supplied with free 100 litres of acaricides. This will enable dip committees to collect money from their members, so that by the end of five months each committee will be self-sufficient.

It is also important, as a way of assisting livestock farmers to have the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) re-opened. As you know, some three years ago we went into the project partnership with Mitsubishi Corporation and spent a lot of money in rehabilitating the project. The idea was for us to be able to serve livestock farmers. As you know, none of the private operators operating slaughter houses has facilities to process coned beef and other specialised cuts. It is important that through the KMC we should be able to recover part of the market that we lost to the European Union. This can only happen if we make sure that our livestock is disease free and is of good quality.

One of the issues that may become necessary is the need for the middle colleges in the field of veterinary science to train adequate numbers. Maybe, we will borrow a leaf from the Ministry of Health which has licensed and allowed clinical officers to practise privately, so that farmers can be served better. I am trying to say that it is possible for graduates from middle level colleges to set themselves up as private practitioners and serve the livestock farmers in order to make sure that we do not lose animals unnecessarily.

Having said that, I feel that I should comment on the field of animal feeds. The prices for animal feeds are so highly inflated that there is a need to have another look at them and ensure that cheaper animal feeds are available in the market. It is wrong for us to depend on importing some of these animal feeds when the raw materials are actually available locally. In fact, I would like to recommend to the manufacturers of animal feeds to find some way in which

they can keep their products within the reach of various livestock farmers.

With these remarks, I beg to move.

The Assistant Minister for Education (Mr. Komora): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving an opportunity to second this amendment. The Motion itself is worthy of support. We have gone through a lot of problems, which have affected not only human beings, but also animals. Each time this country suffers from drought we talk about drought recovery programmes and famine relief for human beings, but forget that we have millions of animals on which we depend, and which require to be sustained on food supplies.

Much as we appreciate what the Government is doing through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing and the Minister's statement that we are going to have free acaricides for the 4000 dips on the country, this does not contribute much to the welfare of the animals if the same animals have no feeds. Acaricides will be meaningless if the animals have nothing to eat. As soon as recurrent problems disappear we assume that they are gone for ever. Drought is a perpetual problem in this country and will continue from year to year and from decade to decade. Therefore, we have to find ways of managing it.

*(There was no recording due to
a brief power failure)*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we expect our people to be fed on food. Here is a crop which is very simple to grow. It can be grown in vast areas of this country and we must be encouraged to grow it. The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, who I am glad is here, should actually go and out and develop seeds for the farmers in various areas. Farmers should grow soya beans and any other crops that are similar to soya beans that can provide food, oil and animal feeds.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have projects like the Bura and Hola irrigation schemes. We now have the Tana Delta irrigation project. We have a lot of wastage in the rice schemes. For example, we have rice husks and the rice stock itself being literally burned every year and yet we are talking about hundreds and hundreds of tones which could be converted into animal feeds. Tana River District is one of the largest cattle rearing districts in this country. In fact, we are proud to say that since we supply the bulk of cattle that feeds the Coast Province and the rest of Kenya. But at the same time, thousands of cattle die every year because during the drought season, it is only the human beings who are given famine relief food and not animals which are equally important. The animals suffers from both lack of water and food. Therefore, thousands of animals die every year and our farmers are unable to sell them and obtain value for the animals and be able to buy food with the returns of the sale of these animals. That is when the animals become worthless. They fetch very little money since the market is unavailable. In the long run, they are not able to feed themselves after selling their cattle. Whereas, if we had adequate animal feeds in Garsen and Bura irrigation schemes then these animal feeds could be converted into food crops and cash crops could be grown there. When we grow cotton, we get cotton cake which can be used as animal feeds and also for human consumption and also be put into other uses. We also get by-products that are useful in this country. When we grow rice, we get husks. If all these programmes could be built in these irrigation schemes, then the farmers can be encouraged to grow these crops which are easy to grow and sell. If the factories could be built in these irrigation schemes, then people could manufacture both animal and human foods which would be a move in the right direction.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Dalmas Otieno talked about the Kenya Oil Authority. Many people talk about various authorities but, I believe, that what we require in this country is what I have just called the Drought Management Authority. This authority should encourage and be funded to ensure that these crops are developed. The paper that hon. Murungi has just circulated about soya beans is an important document. However, it is a restricted document. It has not been made available. It has not been circulated by the Government. This is the kind of literature that is being withheld by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing that should be made available to the farmers. I think, that is a very important area which the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing should consider. Farmers must be educated. Farmers must be furnished with literature so that they can learn new techniques and other related techniques. We may not require extension workers to move around all over the place all the times because what we require are farm management institutes. Farmers should attend various courses. I have seen very few farmers in my district being enroled in farmer training institutes where they can spend two to three days with farm managers or with agricultural technicians who can teach them farming techniques. On the other hand, some farmers are knowledgeable and it also important for these field technicians who are employed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to teach the local farmers the new techniques for growing those crops.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, much as I stand here to second the amendment by the Minister, I would

like to remind him that although we have liberalised our economy to enable the forces of economy to play in, we definitely must do something better than that in the rural areas. It is ripe and fair to talk about liberalisation of the economy in the industrialised areas. But it is not easy for any investor to leave a lucrative investments in Nairobi and go all the way to Tana River District, Voi District or Marsabit District to establish a factory which is irrelevant to the needs of those areas and establish a factory which will not serve any purpose because no investor will be attracted to go there. So, there is still room for the Government to go through this authority. If we had a drought management authority then they would see the need to establish a small factory that would take care of the products around Marsabit, Hola or Garsen to make sure that what is produced in that area is conserved and managed for use by both animals and human beings. The said authority may not find it lucrative or investment-worthy in terms of huge profits that are charged by the investors. The Minister has mentioned here that those who are producing animal feeds, have reaped so much profits. The prices of animal feeds have ballooned so much that no rural man in this country can afford the prices of chicken and animal feeds. It is, therefore, upon he Government to come round and say "Okay the Drought Management Authority can establish these small industries to take care of the need of the poor farmers in the rural areas and this is important".

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, although we are committed to freeing the economy to the market forces, we are also a Government that is more committed to the majority of our people by providing them with the necessary supplies.

With these few remarks, I support both the amendments and the Motion.

*(Question, that the words to be
added be added, proposed)*

The Assistant Minister, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Planning and National Development (Dr. Misoi): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to support this important Motion.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this country we have experienced a lot of problems particularly because of the new economic management in this country where the whole sector has been liberalised. Also Government subsidies on the industries have been removed. When the Government liberalised the economy, the farmers were expected to take care of their livestock. However, because there was no sufficient time to train the farmers to put in place proper infrastructure to maintain this industry, the livestock industry has suffered a lot. We have lost as much as 40 per cent of our livestock in this country due to different kinds of diseases and particularly tick-related diseases. We have lost a lot of animals in the dairy industry which is a very vital industry in this country. This is because the dairy industry feeds the people and it is used to be an export industry. But we now have nothing to be proud of. We are not able to export our dairy products. First of all, we do not have enough markets for the dairy industry a fact which has created lots of obstacles to the farming community.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is important, therefore, to think of good quality seeds in this country. The imports, raw materials for such production are stated in this important Motion. Soya bean which can be grown in various parts of this country has got a market. It has a market not only in terms of dairy feed production, but also in terms of production of human food. This particular crop can be used to process and produce baby food which is also very good. It can also be used to process other feeds for the growing human population. It is, therefore, a good challenge for the Government to open up and facilitate the production of soya bean in this country which in turn will lead to the production of various varieties of food for the nation and also for export. Brazil, for example, produces a lot of soya bean products which are exported all over the world and even some of these products are in this market; they are in Kenya. So where we have a good climate to produce such variety of food, farmers should be assisted in a big way.

What is important, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, is not only to encourage the private sector, but also provide facilities for the investors to venture into this area. When we talk of private investors, we are also talking about farmers, they should be encouraged to invest in production of this varied crop. We need to widen the variety of crops produced in this country in such a way that we remove the monoculture where we only based our production on traditional crops. We need to move into these new type of crops not only soya bean, but we need to move into other temperate crops which can be grown into this country. We need to introduce irrigation systems in this country so that we also are able to produce other crops which are marketable and have got export market.

It is unfortunate that when we are talking about producing seeds to feed the livestock or to be able to make the farmers economically sustainable, the industries which have been serving this country processing products and even for exports are at standstill. KCC is still surviving, it has got its own problems. Unless, they carry out "surgical" management restructuring, it can face a lot of problems because of the competition with upcoming dairy industries.

One time we had very good export-processing plant, like KMC, it is standstill and the Minister should tell us what is going to happen because it has been restructured. We had put new equipment two years ago when I was an Assistant Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, through the Japanese assistance, yet the industry is not working. We understand that we need about Kshs200 million. That money should be found so that the industry can start processing the livestock products so that the industry can support the pastoralists in the North-Eastern Province, Maasailand and a few other places. It is really shameful to have an industry which is stagnant. It is like a white elephant project. It used to work during all those days when *Kaburus* were here, but now we are an independent country and we cannot make use of such an industry. It is also terrible because the instruments which have been put into that industry will go to waste. They will start rusting and at the end of the day when we want to restructure it again and revamp it, it will cost maybe over millions of shillings.

This is a challenge to this country that whatever infrastructure we have, let us have them functioning. Let the KMC be functional and let us improve KCC to compete with the other small plants. All other industries we have had before which are now agro-based are declining. They are declining because of bad management, corruption, people are not paying the loans they took from these industries. KFA used to be an example of a well-managed farmers' association and it is declining. The other farmers' based institution, KPCU is still working. Thank God for the coffee farmers still support it. We want, for example, that KFA should be supported by the farmers and have good management and restructuring, put in more inputs to make it workable to serve the farmers and so on.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is so shameful that what we had before Independence and immediately after Independence, they are all declining. They are all grinding to a halt. Where are we going? What hope do the people have even when we encourage them to venture into this wide area of agricultural production? Really, we are discouraging the farmers. We need to open up. If we cannot furnish, after all, we are having divesture, privatisation and so on. Let us privatise, let people run it, let us sell all those institutions which are dying so that, at least, the public does not maintain loss-making institutions. I think this is the right thing to do so that the Government can govern. We provide good governance, infrastructure facilities, promote development, let people do the productive thing. This is the right approach. The more we decide to do this the better for this country so that we are able to concentrate on managing public affairs properly. Providing incentives, good enabling environment for economy to grow, to create employment, to make our people more richer than they have been, to stop the increasing poverty in this country where we have so many people now living "below poverty line." We need to take very bold steps to assist this nation develop.

The most crucial aspect and input is political stability. It is the peace which we need which is going to give us sustainable development. We cannot develop amid chaos and the lead for that sustainability are leaders. Leaders are we in this House. That when we have socio-political conflicts, let us use the channels which exist even in this Parliament rather than going out to the public to assist us. If we get out of this House to the streets and all those places, we will have failed to use and to introduce dialogue among ourselves. All political leaders are in this House and if they cannot have dialogue, share, debate, brainstorm, but only to go out and get people to support them, then they have no business being here. This is the challenge and we must face it straight. What happened recently here has given us a bad name. I was outside the country, the electronic media showed people running and so on. They think Kenya is going down. We cannot allow this. It is shameful, and even hon. Members of Parliament should be ashamed, to be involved in those things which led to loss of lives, destruction of properties and so on. How can we destroy what we have built and then go building it again simply because you want to be somewhere? We must also remove this concept of removing individuals. Let us create institutions so that if you are President you are in that office. It is not a question of changing one person from the other when the same policies will continue. Let us institutionalise our leadership. This will give hope to our people. We should not create fear of uncertainty, people not knowing what will happen. Right now, we are going for an election and instead of giving our people confidence we are instilling fear to the old men, women, young people and so on. This is a disaster and those who want to claim to be future presidents should be more mature to moderate the people. When they become extinct themselves, then what hope do we have in this country? How are we going to reconcile these people when we have been a party to throwing the stones? It cannot work! This is a challenge for our leaders and we must put our heads together.

*(Question, that the words to be added be added,
put and agreed to)*

(Question of the Motion as amended proposed)

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Sumbeiywo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to seek the guidance of the Chair because since we started business this morning in

this House, I have noticed that the Public Gallery is empty and I do not know whether it is proper for us to continue talking here as yet, our constituents who elected us to this House cannot come and listen to what their hon. Members are doing in this House.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Sumbeiywo, obviously, from where I am I cannot see the Public Galleries. So, I do not know whether it is empty or not. Anyhow, I can see a few men sitting in the Speaker's Gallery. I did indicate last week that Members of the public come to both galleries at the absolute pleasure of Mr. Speaker. This having been raised several times, I think I will bring it to the attention of Mr. Speaker and find out what is happening. There may be some arrangement to exclude the public from the galleries. I do not know.

Mr. J.N. Mungai: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to contribute on this Motion on soya beans.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is well known and it is a clear fact that agricultural sector is the backbone of Kenya's economy. Having known that, you will find that there is no much seriousness taken in this industry by the Government. Soya bean is a crop that has been grown in this country for years and years. Either willingly or unwillingly, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing has not taken any seriousness into the research of the potential we have in this country in as far as agriculture is concerned. This is a very serious matter because agriculture is one of the most important industries that we have in this country. It is so dangerous that the Government has not become consistent in it. A Motion on a crop like soya beans should not have been brought to the House. It should have been the responsibility of the Government to have known it earlier and taken a serious measure to see that this very important crop is not only grown in this country, but also processed and marketed. The people should be encouraged to use it, so that they can also encourage the farmers to grow it. Sometimes one wonders what is happening with the Government when research stations continue to be destroyed by being demarcated to private individuals for private development until we get to a situation where very important potentials in this country appear almost forgotten. It was only recently when liberalisation came into existence and it will be so sad for the Government to use liberalisation to forget its responsibility. We do not need to compete with anything coming from outside. We need to compete with what is available here. Ours is of the best quality and it is needed elsewhere more than we need the varieties from other countries. If we need soya beans, we do not need to import them from Uganda, Tanzania or any other country in the world and yet, we have the potential to grow it here.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also sad that we have had several catastrophes of drought which have really affected our animals because we were not prepared for it. We have also seen that we are running short of some very important commodities such as beef, milk and mutton because the Government appears to have neglected its responsibility. Part of the reason why we are falling short of this is because our animals are dying, either because they have some deficiency due to poor feeding and lack of proteins which can be obtained from soya beans. It is also a clear fact that we are losing many of our animals because of drought. This kind of mismanagement has almost brought us into total shame and yet, internationally, we are known to be holding sufficient potential to develop our agricultural sector. The problem in the agricultural sector is not only in soya beans. The same situation obtains for all other crops. When we look at other sectors like the pyrethrum which is grown in Molo, we will find that it is a monopoly of a Government parastatal. This is a very serious matter because people in this country have matured both educationally and enterprise-wise to go into such industries and do business. It is important that the Ministry releases people from the bondage of being denied opportunities to grow and develop an industry such as pyrethrum in places where it is heavily grown such as Molo, Mau Narok, Nyandarua, Narok and Kericho. If we encourage our people to go private in this industry, they would be making better business than the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya can decide not to pay the farmers by claiming that there are no avenues for marketing the crop. This is because they are a monopoly in the marketing of this crop. We are calling upon the Minister to make sure that all these monopolies are done away with. With liberalisation in place, the Minister should make sure that people are encouraged in the private sector to develop industries in such areas like processing of pyrethrum.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also very discouraging that we can have institutions like ADC which has totally failed. I do not know whether it has failed because it is being run by wrong managers or the managers are involved in corruption. Why has it failed? We do not even see why the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing has not seen that, that institution has failed. It has failed because during the drought period, we missed potatoes all over the country and the price of potatoes went as high as Kshs6,500 per bag, whereas we have cold storages in ADC stations where we should have preserved the right seed to be grown during short rains and also others to be grown during the full length of potato season, so that they can also be sold without the fear of being destroyed. If one goes to the ADC cold storages in Molo, they are doing nothing. In fact, they are rusting. We do not know why they are still there and yet, we can see managers, accountants and other workers. We do not know what they are doing there. They are wasting their time. The Minister is sitting here and he probably

does not know what is going on there. I urge the Minister to tour the ADC cold storage facilities in Molo. Why were they built, if they cannot serve the purpose of the local farmer by preserving seeds for him? Today, the rains have come and there is no seed in the potato growing areas. This is because the cold storages have not taken care of that aspect to make sure that we have sufficient seeds even during drought and after the drought season, so that the farmer will not struggle to look for seeds. They should move straight away to where the seeds are and get them for their use. We may go for another few months before the market on potatoes comes down. Immediately the rains came, we had no available seed. This is very discouraging and we need to work very seriously and look at our agricultural industry with a lot of concern. It can never be the backbone of our economy and yet, the Government has no way that it can prove to Kenyans that it is serious about the management of that industry.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our economy has failed not because we do not have people to work or entrepreneurs, but it is because the Government in its potential has failed in its duty. It has neglected the industry. We just wonder if the Government neglects the industry, what else is mwananchi left to do? Mwananchi is going to be left with no alternative, but to demand the Government, to either resign or make the constitutional reforms that are being demanded so that everybody, including the Minister, can be pursued wherever he is, even at his desk, to be voted out, if he cannot perform. Today, because of the protection in our Constitution on certain individuals, it is becoming extremely difficult to sue somebody or to sack people who cannot perform out of the industry and replace them with more efficient managers. This is why the demand for constitutional reforms must continue, and although some of us are demanding that constitutional reforms should continue through dialogue, it must happen because it is the only way that we can save this nation.

Some people are feeling that constitutional reforms are both an attack to an individual and the Government. It is just an assurance to every Kenyan that once this document is reformed, it is going to give protection to every Kenyan wherever he is. I come from the Kikuyu community, and I know there are Kikuyus living in Turkana, Trans Nzoia and other places in this country and they are minorities. I can never boast of my community being a large community yet I know there are areas where they are also a minority. When we ask for these constitutional reforms, we are demanding that such cases or adventurous people be taken care of.

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

The Assistant Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Mr. Nassir): Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, furaha yangu kubwa ni kuona Wabunge wanaleta Hoja ambayo itawafaa wananchi wetu. Tumezungumza sana juu ya siasa na kubadilisha Katiba, lakini hatufikirii shida zinazowakabili wananchi waliotupigia kura; tunafikiria mambo ya ukubwa. Kwa hivyo, nina furaha kwa mhe. Mbunge ambaye ameleta Hoja hii.

Kuna mambo mengi kama haya huko Nakuru, Kisumu, Mombasa na kwingineko. Kuna taabu nyingi. Hatujatumia hata asilimia 10 ya malighafi ya bahari. Mito iliyopo Kisumu na Busia na mahali penginepo pia haitumiwi inavyopaswa. Ardhi yetu pia haijanyunyiziwa maji ipasavyo katika kukuza mimea ili wananchi wapate chakula cha kutosha. Mambo ya aina hii ndio viongozi wanatakiwa kujadili katika Kenya. Kuna nchi nyingine ambalo watu ni hodari kucheza dansi, lakini hapa kwetu, sisi ni hodari kwa mambo ya siasa. Kwa kujadili siasa, sisi ni nambari wani, lakini kumsaidia mwananchi wa kawaida ambaye ana taabu na hana kazi, na ndiye aliyekupigia kura, hatuwezi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kama ni kulilia uongozi, uongozi utabadilika, lakini kitu kikubwa ni kwamba tutafute njia ya kuwafanya Wakenya wote wapendane. Tukifanya hayo, mambo mengine yote yatakuja. Ninastaajabu kwamba ndugu zangu, tangu mwaka 1992, sasa ndio wanataka mabadiliko ya Katiba wakati ambapo tumesalia na miezi mitatu kuvunja Bunge. Siku hizi zote mlikuwa wapi, wanangu? Ikiwa roho yataka kufa, huna dawa ya kuizuia. Kuisitiza juu ya mabadiliko ya Katiba haifai lolote, kitu kikubwa ni kuleta amani katika nchi yetu na kuwasaidia wananchi kutatua taabu zao.

Tunasema sana siasa na kuwafanya wao wawe wakali zaidi, lakini hiyo si dawa ya mtu maskini katika Kenya, ambaye anataka usaidizi wetu katika kutatua shida zake. Wewe unaenda benki kuchukua mkopo, lakini huyu maskini anayekupigia kura ni njia gani atapata mkopo kutoka benki na ni njia gani atapata shamba? Mungu ametupa ardhi na bahari, lakini hatujazitumia ipasavyo. Tukiona watu wana jangwa, leo wana chakula chungu nzima kwa sababu Mungu ametupa maji. Wakati wa kuteta na kuonyesha nguvu, huwa hatuna akili ya kuwasaidia tena watu wetu kwa sababu sisi nia yetu ni kuonyesha ni nani hodari kwa kuongea.

Ninawashukuru Wabunge kutoka Serikali ya KANU, kwa kuwa mambo yanayofanywa na Upinzani, sisi hatuyafanyi hata kidogo. Hatuonyeshi ujeuri kama vile kutoa wanafunzi shuleni. Mtoto amepelikwa shule na babake maskini kwenda kusoma, anadanganywa kwamba yeye atakuwa mwanasiasa hodari. Si ule chakula kwanza nyumbani na uende ukafanye kazi au usome uwe daktari, wakili au mwanasiasa? Lakini sasa hatujui tufanye nini. Kama si utulivu wa Mtukufu Rais, Serikali nyingine ingewachukua shambani wakalime ili waelewe shida za ulimwengu kabla ya kwenda vyuo vikuu kumaliza masomo yao.

Kwa hivyo, ninasema, wale Wabunge wenzangu ambao wana akili nzuri waige mfano wa mhe. Douglas

Mbela na walete Hoja za kuwasaidia wananchi. Kuchaguliwa kwangu kuwa Mbunge au Waziri si wananchi wote watastarehe.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninataka kuwaomba waandishi wa magazeti waandike kwamba mhe. Nassir naye alichangia Hoja hii. Asante sana.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): It is now time for the Mover to reply.

Mr. D.D. Mbela: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would first of all like to thank the Minister and all hon. Members for having supported and heartedly articulated the Motion on the soya beans crop. We have seen today that there are many other areas besides the old soya bean area which need to be exploited and which are very very promising over and above our main agricultural crop area.

I do hope that the Ministry would now take firm and positive action to ensure that Kenyans get the maximum benefits that can be derived from the various crops which have been treated rather lightly over the period. I say this because this country has had very important crops when we grew up. Kenya was nothing, but agriculture. We were talking agriculture in schools, colleges, in the villages and everywhere, and even our old Ministers that were in charge of agriculture before were very proud Ministers. They were proud to go anywhere in the world and praise Kenya's agricultural output and the quality of Kenya's agricultural products. Our Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, was able to stand firm amongst his colleagues anywhere in the world and say that he comes from Kenya, and he is proud to be a Kenyan, because Kenya was reputed to be a fast moving agricultural country. This pride was enjoyed by former Ministers like the late Sir Michael Blundel and Mr. Bruce Mackenzie. We would wish to see our current Minister moving around the world, proud of being a Kenyan.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleagues have indicated quite clearly that soya beans are a highly diversified crop, which can take quite a spectrum of both animal and human feed. It mixes well with other grains for purposes of protein requirements. I would not like to repeat that, but I would only add that we use soya beans in bakeries and paints, in water-proofing of cement, in soaps, in detergents, in greases and lubricants, in printing and in many other fields. Soya beans can be converted into milk, which can be very useful in the school feeding system. It should be a permanent feature of our development, if we were to ensure that we have a healthy nation. It is also very useful as both green and dry manure. It is also used as cattle-feed. So, they are used in a very wide variety.

When I talk about the livestock, I am not demeaning the human element. But soya beans will be an important crop, if it is given the right treatment by the Ministry. My colleagues have also suggested that there should be an oil crop development authority. This is a point that I referred to earlier, when I said that there should be an authority. The Minister is in a position to establish this authority, as quickly as possible, so that this oil crop can take off, and supplement our current agricultural produce, which is on the decline at the moment. We have taken care of coffee until we have reached a point of no return. We cannot go any further in the development of coffee, pyrethrum and tea. We cannot go any further than we have already done. There is not enough land in Kenya now, other than taking over our forests, where we can produce coffee and tea. But we have a vast country side which is open, and which is enjoyed by wildlife. It can be put into great use if some of these special crops and legumes can be introduced into the dry areas. There should be a deliberate move by the Ministry to set up some definite targets, so that the poor people who are wallowing in hunger all the time, thus forcing the Government to spend its scarce resources to import food, can be catered for. We can stand up one of these days and forget that we were asking for food just a few years back. We would like to be a proud nation. There is no way we can be a proud nation, if we have to beg for the most basic commodities.

I would like to finish by thanking my colleagues for supporting this Motion vigorously, and articulating it very well.

With those few words, I beg to move.

*(Question of the Motion as amended
put and agreed to)*

Resolved accordingly:

THAT, considering the dire need to develop and expand the livestock industry in Kenya; being aware that soya bean extract additive is an invaluable component in the protein enrichment of animal feed; also being aware that soya beans can be grown in many areas of Kenya including the Coast, Nyanza and Western Provinces; and considering that other components of animal feed like wheat, maize, millet, etc, are readily available in the grain sector of this country; this House urges the Government to encourage private investors to establish, as a matter of great national importance, a soya beans processing plant - preferably in the Coast Province - to facilitate the availability of appropriate,

cheap and adequate animal feed to livestock farmers.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): It does appear that the Movers of the next five Motions are not here and we only have five minutes to time. I think it is appropriate to stop here.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until this afternoon, at 2.30 p.m.

The House Rose at 12.25 p.m.