

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 8th October, 1996

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

NOTICE OF MOTION

AMENDMENT OF THE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES ACT

Mr. Kareng'e: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-
THAT, in view of the importance of the Co-operative Movement in Kenya, and considering the influence the movement gets from the Administration, this House, urges the Government to amend the Co-operative Societies Act, Cap. 490 of the Laws of Kenya to give members more say in decision making.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.656

MISAPPROPRIATION OF HOSPITAL FUNDS

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Mulusya not yet here? Next Question!

Question No.859

CONSTRUCTION OF POLICE POST AT MAKUTANO

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Nyagah also not here? Next Question!

Question No.927

ERADICATION OF CATTLE RUSTLING IN NAKURU NORTH

Bishop Kimani asked the Minister of State, Office of the President what plans he has to curb cattle rustling in Kabazi, Ndungire and Nyandado locations of Nakuru North Constituency.

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

Patrols and ambushes have been intensified in the area and these measures have proved to be effective in curbing livestock rustling in the said areas.

Bishop Kimani: The Assistant Minister says they have intensified patrols in these areas but people in these areas have partitioned their houses, to bring closer their animals so that they can sleep with them in the houses. Could he ensure that there is enough security so that these animals can stay outside the compound instead of people living with animals in their houses?

Mr. Awori: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister explain why the Anti-Stock Theft Unit which used to be stationed at Rongai was removed, thereby escalating the number of rustling cases in the area?

Mr. Awori: The number of rustling cases have reduced. The reason why that unit was removed was because it was required more urgently elsewhere.

Bishop Kimani: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The hon. Assistant Minister is completely

misleading this House. Since the removal of the Anti-Stock Theft Unit from Rongai area, cattle rustling has increased and that is why I am trying to inform him that people in my area are partitioning their houses to keep animals with them in their houses and this is causing much danger. In March this year, a Mr. Simon Warui Kamau was shot dead with an arrow when cattle rustlers came to his house. Could this unit be brought back?

Mr. Awori: The Government is going to do everything within its power to ensure that the livestock of its citizens are safeguarded. On the other hand, I am afraid that members of the Anti-Stock Theft Unit cannot act as pastoral guards or watchmen.

Question No.669

MEASURES TO REDUCE COST OF FARM INPUTS

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Njenga Mungai not here? Next Question!

Question No.897

REPRESENTATION IN MURANG'A COUNCIL

Mr. Michuki asked the Minister for Local Government:-

(a) whether he is aware that Muguru Location in Kangema is not represented in Murang'a County Council; and,

(b) if the answer to "a" is in the affirmative, when he is going to ensure that the said location is represented in the said Council?

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kamuren): Mr. Speaker, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that Muguru Location in Kangema is not represented in Murang'a County Council. The information which I got of late is that this location was curved out of the previously larger Iyego Location.

(b) Since representation is needed in this area, I was able to communicate with my officers within the Ministry and we have decided that this location will be made an electoral area come the next General Elections.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while thanking the Assistant Minister for his well considered and just reply, that the location will have representation in Murang'a County Council come the next general elections, does the Assistant Minister agree that between now and 28th January, 1998 when the life of this Parliament expires is an eternity during which this location will continue to remain unrepresented in Murang'a County Council?

Mr. Kamuren: I quite agree with my colleague, Member of Parliament for Kangema, but since the situation remains as it is, I will make sure that, that particular location will be represented come the forthcoming General Election.

Mr. Icharia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister agrees with us that these people are suffering due to lack of representation. Their rights are not honoured.

Could the Assistant Minister make arrangements for a by-election in that area so that at least for one year, before the next General Election, these people can be represented? It is not a big deal.

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot make that commitment on the Floor of this House because there are so many locations which are not represented currently all over the country. So, I hope the Member will bear with me because the Electoral Commission will announce elections in the other locations with Muguru location included.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell this House why he denies the people of Muguru Location the opportunity to have an election in which FORD(A) can battle it out with KANU like we have done elsewhere?

Mr. Kamuren: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not intend to deny the right of proper representation to the people of Muguru Location. But I would like the Member to bear with me because this also involves the time element. Let us bear with the short time remaining before the next General Election when these people will elect their representatives.

Question No. 349

PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR LOCAL SUGAR

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Shikuku not here? Next question.

Question No. 616

CONSTRUCTION OF SEA WALL

Mr. Ndzai asked the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources whether he could arrange to build a wall to prevent sea-water from entering Ngomeni Village in Kilifi District.

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

My Ministry in consultation with other Government arms arranged to build the wall but there are no funds for such an activity. However, should funds become available, arrangements can be made for the wall to be built.

Mr. Ndzai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the water enters Ngomeni Village, most of the houses are being washed away. Could the Ministry take action to stop this damage immediately?

Mr. Abdi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am aware that some houses were damaged by the sea-water and as I have said, my Ministry, in consultation with the Ministry of Local Government and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing, will look for ways and means of building that wall. In fact in 1984 half of the length was fenced and as for the remaining portion, we are trying to look for funds for to complete it.

Mr. Achieng-Oneko: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister tell us how much it will cost to build a wall to prevent damage and destruction of property belonging to this community?

Mr. Abdi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the feasibility study is still not complete and that is why I cannot get the figures at the moment.

Mr. Ndilinge: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it appears that the Assistant Minister is taking the Questioner for a ride. This is because if the issue was asked sometime back in 1994, and upto now nothing has been done, then surely the Assistant Minister should tell the House frankly what is happening. It appears that his Ministry is waiting for the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to do something about the issue. If nothing has been done, he should say so rather than taking the Questioner for a ride.

Mr. Abdi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1984 a company by the name Combined Minerals Limited belonging to a Mr. Gulam Ahmed, was granted a special licence to prospect for iron ore in an area covering 325 square kilometres stretching from Sabaki River, just North of Malindi in Kilifi District to just beyond Kipini in Tana River District. The same company, in a show of good gesture, constructed about 100 metres of fence at the cost of Kshs500,000. Another company was given a contract and they fenced about 150 metres in 1987. So, about 250 metres have not been fenced and my Ministry could not undertake the construction because of lack of funds.

Mr. Ndzai: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do not know what he is talking about. Nobody can understand what he is saying or what he is reading. I am asking a specific question. When the sea-water enters the village, the houses are washed away and, therefore, I am requesting the Ministry to do something to stop this damage and yet he is reading something which does not seem to make sense. Could he please tell the House whether the Ministry will do something to stop this damage as all houses are being washed away by the water?

Mr. Abdi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that feasibility studies are still continuing and they have not been completed. My Ministry will undertake to build---

Mr. Arte: On a point of order Mr. Speaker, Sir. The hon. Assistant Minister was asked a specific question about the sea water which is damaging the houses.

What assistance is he going to give so that this damage can be stopped? The Assistant Minister is not answering this question but he is just talking about something different from what he was asked. Could he specifically answer that question?

Mr. Abdi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the moment we do not have funds. So, we cannot do anything.

Question No. 671

NUMBER OF JOBLESS PERSONS IN NDIA

Mr. Mbui asked the Minister for Labour and Manpower Development:-

(a) what is the number of jobless men and women of 18 years old and above in Ndia Constituency; and,

(b) what plans the Ministry has to create jobs for these people.

The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Masinde): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The number of jobless persons in Ndia Constituency has not been established because registration of jobless persons in this country is still voluntary.

(b) The Government is doing its best to plan to create jobs for the jobless throughout the country and that

means that Ndia is also included.

Mr. Mbui: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what specific plans does the Ministry have as of now regarding the creation of jobs for the school-leavers and those who are tarmacking on the roads?

Mr. Masinde: Mr. Speaker, Sir, quite a number of Sessional Papers on how to create jobs for the jobless have been debated in this House. I am sure the hon. Member is aware of those Sessional Papers. However, the Government is encouraging groups of people to, for example, grow horticultural crops like beans and tomatoes, farmers to grow cash crops like tea and coffee in areas where they have not originally been grown; it is encouraging the growth of tobacco and cotton in various parts of the country where they can be grown. All this is stimulating infrastructural activities and creating employment. We also have the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) in the country, which provide wananchi with some jobs. Of course, we are also encouraging wananchi who have the qualifications to get out of the country and look for jobs where they can fit accordingly. Those are just a few of the attempts being made by the Government to create jobs.

Mr. Wamae: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of unemployment of school and university leavers is a very serious one in this country. The Minister has not come out clearly with concrete measures as to how this problem can be resolved. Will he consider encouraging these educated Kenyans to go and work as expatriates in neighbouring countries? Will he also, ask the Government to start spending money on public works so as to provide these people with employment?

Mr. Masinde: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think I said in my reply that the Government is encouraging those who have the right qualifications to look for jobs outside Kenya. As far as Ministry of Public Works and Housing and other Ministries are concerned, they are definitely endeavouring to make sure that jobs are created, so that Kenyans can be employed.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a bit unfortunate that the Deputy Leader of Government Business does not seem to know what his Government's own priorities are. At least, the run of the mill in this Government today is to pretend that the main solution to unemployment in Kenya is something called the National Youth Development Programme. He does not even pretend to mention that programme. But be that as it may, how can a Minister of Government claim that the main thrust of creating employment for the trained people is to encourage them to go abroad, when the same Government is spending a fortune head-hunting among Kenyans who have trained professionally abroad to bring them here so as to, at least, teach in universities? How can this Minister pretend that the main thrust of creating employment is in horticulture and agriculture when this Government, through its liberal and corrupt policies and mitumba clothes, has destroyed the textile industry? The greed and protection of a corrupt son of the President is on the brink of destroying the Kenya Co-operative Creameries Limited! Can he tell us concretely what measures his Ministry of Labour and Manpower Development is taking to eradicate the rot that has been caused by this Government?

Mr. Masinde: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have to be told by the Government as to what it intends to do. I am part of the Government! Whatever plans the Government is implementing are not under the table. All the measures of the Government have been introduced here under various Sessional Papers.

Michuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have said in this House over and over again that in order to promote employment in the country investments should be allowed in the country, with tax holidays of a minimum of five years.

Without that kind of inducement no investments will come to this country! Could the Minister tell us why the Government has not taken up this step if it is serious about eliminating beggars, who are what it seems to prefer?

Mr. Masinde: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is asking me to tell him what the Government has done in order to encourage investors into the country. It appears that he never listens to what his Excellency the President always tells people. We have even had---

Mr. Michuki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My question is very specific. It is about tax holidays for investment for periods of not less than five years. Can he address that issue? Otherwise, he is out of order!

Mr. Masinde: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not see why the hon. Member is only keen on tax remission for five years. There are many other incentives that the Government has offered to enable investors to come and invest in this country. I mentioned in my original answer about the EPZs. The people setting up EPZs have been given a lot of concessions in order to encourage them to expand their operations and take into employment our youths.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mulusya's Question for the second time.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first I apologise for coming late.

Question No. 656

MISAPPROPRIATION OF HOSPITAL FUNDS

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

- (a) whether he is aware that there has been interference in the auditing of public funds raised for the on-going Kangundo Hospital Nyayo Wards;
- (b) whether he is further aware that former District Officers in Kangundo have been implicated in the misappropriation of the funds and no action has yet been taken against them; and,
- (c) when he will order the dissolution of the old Kangundo-based Committee and pave way for fresh elections.

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

(a) my office is not aware of any interference in the auditing of public funds raised for the on-going Kangundo Hospital Nyayo Wards.

(b) No District Officer has been implicated in misappropriation of funds as alleged.

(c) The Government does not find it necessary to dissolve the present Committee as its members are very dedicated people, who have sacrificed their time, energy and resources for the success of the project without any inducement or remuneration.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a project which subjected the Government to a lot of ridicule from the people of Kangundo. In 1993 I asked a Question in this House about where the money for Kangundo Nyayo Wards was. Immediately thereafter the project was started. There is a probe which was ordered---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mulusya! Are you asking a question or proceeding on a debate? Will you ask questions?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, is the Assistant Minister aware that the probe which was done under the auspices of people appointed by the Machakos District Commissioner has already implicated all the District Officers who have been in Kangundo since the inception of this project? It has become typical of---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mulusya! You are making it absolutely difficult for us to assist you to get your question answered! Mr. Awori, will you answer the question?

Mr. Awori: I was waiting for him to---

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are having a problem even from the Chair because we are not being given enough time to present our cases. Both you and the Minister do not know what is happening in Kangundo, but I know. Can I be told to---

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mulusya. Can you keep the Chair out of your politics? Just put the question as precisely as you can. Put your question to the hon. Minister.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Chair gives me enough amplitude, I will put the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mulusya! We will not give you the whole afternoon. We have several other Questions and other business to attend to. It is your duty, as the Questioner, to know how to ask your questions as precisely as possible. Now do so, you have limited time like every other hon. Member.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is; why is the Government, through the local District Commissioner (DC), interfering with the "stealing" of this money collected by the people of Kangundo?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know why the hon. Member is getting hysterical. In the first instance, he had nothing whatsoever to do with the collection of this money and secondly---

Mr. Wamae: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Assistant Minister to refer to an hon. Member as being hysterical? Is it in order?

An hon. Member: What Constitution is that?

Mr. Awori: Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member was hysterical.

Mr. Mulusya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to still continue insisting that I am hysterical when the money for Kangundo people is being stolen? I have no other option open to me but to be hysterical.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: What did he say?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Member for admitting the situation in which he is. All the money that was collected in 1988 for this project is very safe indeed, to the extent that it has even earned interest to the tune of Kshs850,000. When the project was initially planned, it was going to cost Kshs10 million. I do not know how much it will cost now, but it will be in the range of about Kshs40 or Kshs50 million. Currently, in the bank there is just under Kshs4 million. My advice is to the hon. Member to do like the KANU hon. Members do, to mobilise people and raise funds in Harambee.

Mr. Mulusya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mulusya! Would you not like other hon. Members to participate? I now give the Floor to Mr. Anyona. What is it Mr. Mulusya?

Mr. Mulusya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister is misleading this House. As we are talking here now, there is not a single Shilling in the bank, not even a cent. Is he in order to say that there is Kshs4,800,000 in the bank, including interest? Can he produce proof that this Account for the Kangundo Nyayo Wards has this amount of money?

(Applause)

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first Account Number 931289 - Kenya Commercial Bank, Moi Avenue, Nairobi has Kshs1 million with the following signatories: Elijah Kithimba, Justice Muli, Charles Songa and Mweke Nguli. The second Account Number 165054131 - Kenya Commercial Bank, Tala Branch has Kshs1,570,380 with the following signatories: District Officer, Kangundo; Mr. J.M. Nguttu, Justice Muli and N.M. Kiongo. The third account is at the Kenya Commercial Bank, Finance Company, Moi Avenue, A/C No. 017641/91/1516, it has Kshs850,186 with the following signatories: District Officer, Kangundo; J.M. Ngutu, N.M. Kiongo and Justice Muli.

Finally, Delphis Bank, Nkurumah Road, Mombasa, A/C No. 02060913 has Kshs103,000 with the following signatories: Bernard Mutiso and Z.C. Senga. As you can see it is just not possible for a single person to---

Mr. Mulusya: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Sorry, Mr. Mulusya! Order, hon. Awori. One thing I would expect hon. Members to do, is to be patient enough to hear an answer to their Questions, however unpalatable it may be. I think we are all here to seek answers to questions. So, if an hon. Member persists all the time in interrupting, I do not think we are going very far.

I will give the final one to Mr. Anyona.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I insist on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Mr. Mulusya! I know what you want. I will totally deny you this afternoon. Proceed, Mr. Anyona!

(Laughter)

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we may be talking about Kangundo Nyayo Wards, but the Nyayo Wards were a national project. In my view, it was a very deserving national project. It might have been perceived politically, but if it had been properly implemented, it was a worthwhile project. The truth of the matter today is that all Nyayo Wards, everywhere in the country, have collapsed. So, can the Minister kindly give us an account, not only of Kangundo, but all the other Nyayo Wards across the country and make sure that, that money that is sitting in the accounts is used to develop those Nyayo Wards?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, perhaps I will ask the hon. Member to put a substantial Question, and then we will give the answer.

Mr. Speaker: Very well! For the second time, Mr. Nyagah's Question.

Question No. 859

CONSTRUCTION OF POLICE POST AT MAKUTANO

Mr. Speaker: Is Mr. Nyagah still not here?

(Question dropped)

Mr. Speaker: Next Question. Mr. Njenga Mungai, for the second time!

Bishop Kimani: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first, I wish to apologise for not asking this Question earlier.

Question No. 669

MEASURES TO REDUCE COST OF FARM INPUTS

Bishop Kimani, on behalf of **Mr. J.N. Mungai**, asked the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing:-

- (a) whether he is aware that farmers are finding it very difficult to do farming because of high cost of inputs;
- (b) what measures he intends to take to reduce the prices of the inputs; and,
- (c) if he could consider increasing the selling prices of maize and wheat to avert a possible famine as majority of farmers have opted not to grow crops for fear of losses.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Maundu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that farmers are finding it very difficult to do farming because of high cost of inputs.

(b) In order to keep the cost of inputs reasonably low, the Government has allowed the importation of fertilizer, chemicals and other inputs used for agricultural production, duty-free and no Value Added Tax (VAT) is imposed on them. We are also encouraging farmers to organize themselves into viable groups and co-operatives so that they can minimize costs due to middlemen.

(c) In pursuit of our food security objectives and to promote increased production of maize, the country's staple food crop, the Government is committed to ensuring that maize farmers receive remunerative producer prices for their crop. However, taking due cognisance of the local cost of production and the import parity prices, the Government, within the liberalized market regime, will only institute intervention measures for selected commodities.

Bishop Kimani: Mr. Speaker, Sir, arising from the answer given by the Assistant Minister, I wish to ask him whether it is possible for the Government to subsidise these agricultural inputs because fertilizers and spraying chemicals are very expensive.

Can the Ministry consider subsidizing these to the farmers, particularly, in these high potential areas like Molo and other clash areas, where the farmers are very weak? They are not able to buy these seeds, fertilisers and all that. During the last three years, farmers have been growing maize and other agricultural produce, but all of a sudden, there is dumping of maize.

I would like to ask the Assistant Minister to explain better why this has been happening. We would like him to subsidize for the farmers and maybe have a bag of fertilizers costing Kshs300 or Kshs400 because the Government can raise the rest of the amount.

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government, being aware of the high costs of inputs for the agricultural sector, has done two things which are important. It has made sure that all inputs within the agricultural sector are duty-free and have no VAT. I think, with all due respect, within a liberalized economy and changed circumstances, subsidies will become a thing of the past.

Mr. arap Kirwa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, can the Assistant Minister confirm to this House that the Government will only allow importation of agricultural products as a last to take of deficits and not just to dump them into the country?

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government policy on this matter is that, where there is an importation, that importation will not be for the purpose of dumping and prejudicing local commodities. Valuable duty is applied at the rate of 20 per cent today to make sure that they do not compete with local commodities.

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to mislead this House that the Government is protecting the farmers by having a policy of non-importation when we know very well that the sugar industry has been deliberately ripped of by our own imports, by certain characters whereby they have defied--

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Gatabaki, that is your opinion.

Mr. Busolo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, anybody from Japan, Europe, America etcetera knows that anywhere in this world, Governments always protect the agricultural farmers. Could the Government consider blocking liberalization in the agricultural sector for that matter?

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is now not possible to block liberalization within the agricultural sector.

I think now and in due course, farmers will be reaping benefits of liberalization within this particular sector, and we have put appropriate protective measures to make sure that farmers are not prejudiced within that sector.

Mr. Speaker: For the second time, Mr. Shikuku's Question!

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I apologise on behalf--

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Lwali-Oyondi, were you not seated there when I called out this Question?

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: He had requested me to ask the Question on his behalf in case he failed to come.

Question No.349

PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR LOCAL SUGAR

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi, on behalf of **Mr. Shikuku**, asked the Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing:-

- (a) how many tons of sugar were stored by Mumias Sugar Company by 30th September, 1995, which could not be sold due to saturation of the local market by imported sugar; and,
- (b) what measures the Ministry has taken to ensure that locally produced sugar gets preferential treatment.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Mr. Maundu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) As at 30th September, 1995, Mumias Sugar Company had a total stock of 23,706 tons of sugar as against a normal stock of 12,000 tons that should be held by the sugar company.

(b) The Government has taken the necessary fiscal and monetary measures through imposition of levies and duties with a view to ensuring that imported sugar will not land in Mombasa at prices lower than the price of locally-produced sugar.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister explain the reason why there was this heavy accumulation of sugar in the stores until there was nowhere to store any more sugar?

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be recalled that at this particular time, these stocks were created by a confusion in importation. Strict measures were taken to rectify the situation by taking appropriate fiscal and monetary measures like improving on the duty to make sure that imported sugar is not competing with the locally produced sugar.

Dr. Oburu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hope the Assistant Minister is aware that the prices for inputs like fertilizer and fuel have been going up, and that the price of sugarcane has not been reviewed for the last three years. Can the Assistant Minister tell this House exactly what they are doing to protect the farmers because, even the retail prices of sugar are going up every day and the millers, retailers and wholesalers are gaining except the farmers?

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have said in a previous answer, we have taken measures to make sure that inputs within the agricultural sector are duty-free and have no VAT on them and, at the same time, imported commodities that tend to compete with the locally-produced commodities have a duty that enables the local farmer to compete favourably without being prejudiced.

Mr. Kapten: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister aware that despite the imposition of duty on imported sugar, imported sugar is more expensive than local sugar because of the subsidies in the countries of origin, and if that is the case, what is the Assistant Minister going to do to ensure that imported sugar does not flood the local market?

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that the hon. Member has been listening. I did say that the duties that are imposed on imported sugar are high so as to ensure that it does not compete with locally-produced sugar.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has not quite told us why the imported sugar is still cheaper than the locally-produced sugar despite the fact that duty on it has been increased? By how much has he increased this duty?

Mr. Maundu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think I have answered this question several times. Imported sugar is no longer cheap in the country. With the duty that has been imposed, currently, imported sugar cannot compete with local sugar. Local sugar is still cheaper.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

SHOOTING OF ITE FARM RESIDENTS

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Administration Police and the chief of Kaibei Location in Trans Nzoia District have since Thursday 20th June, 1996, terrorised residents of Ite Farm and all the surrounding areas by shooting innocent people, including a school boy?

(b) If the answer to "a" above is in the affirmative, how many bullets were fired by the chief and the Administration Police between the period of 20th June, 1996, to 24th June, 1996, when they were on the farm?

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

(a) What I am aware of is that the Administration Police and the chief of Kaibei were on 20th June, 1996,

assigned to a Mr. Kimbui of Ite Farm to enforce Court Order Ref. Civil Case No.207/91 of 15th January, 1992, requiring the squatters to be evicted from the farm. No school boy or anybody else was shot dead in the incident.

(b) The Administration Police fired 60 rounds of ammunition in the air to scare away the squatters who were getting unruly during the exercise.

Mr. Kapten: Mr. Speaker, in my Question, I never stated that a boy was killed. I said that he was shot. You can shoot somebody and not kill him. Be that as it may, since the Assistant Minister has spoken of a certain civil case, can he tell us in which court this civil case was filed, against whom and by whom?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I regret that I have no other information other than the case number and the date in which it was filed, but I am quite prepared to bring that information here tomorrow, afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: You will deal with the whole Question in totality tomorrow.

An hon. Member: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid, not on this issue. The Assistant Minister will deal with this Question in totality tomorrow.

Mr. Anyona, before you ask your Question by Private Notice, the House will remember that on Thursday last week, the Minister did make a Ministerial Statement which covers part (a) of that Question. Consequent upon that, and in pursuance of the relevant Standing Order, part (a) will stand struck off. So, part (b) of the Question which reads: "What losses were incurred by Nakumatt and the economy through the closure", will remain. Proceed, Mr. Anyona.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I ask the Question by Private Notice, I would like to imagine that since there were no clarifications sought from the Ministerial Statement, and that in the process of answering the Question, some clarification may be sought on the basis of that Statement, I wonder whether it will be correct if he answers the whole question.

STATEMENT ON NAKUMATT SAGA

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry the following Question by Private Notice.

Will the Minister make a comprehensive statement with regard to the following aspects of Nakumatt saga:

- (a) What circumstances and factors led to the closing and opening of Nakumatt Supermarkets?
- (b) What losses were incurred by Nakumatt and the economy through the closure?

Mr. Speaker: It is as amended by the Chair.

The Minister for Commerce and Industry (Mr. M'Mukindia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply part (b) of the Question.

(b) I am not aware of any losses incurred by Nakumatt and the entire economy during the closure.

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have looked at the Ministerial Statement that was issued on the 3rd of October and it has a lot of "holes" in it. It does not address the issues affecting Nakumatt investments. I have also seen the answer that he has given to part (b) of the Question. Again, that answer begs the question. If you close a business for one week, how can there be no losses? But I want to catch him on one point, on which I am sure he is totally unprepared.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Section 15, Sub-Section two and three of the Trade Licensing Act, the Minister is supposed to refer a matter of this kind to an Appeals Advisory Committee. The first question is: Does such a committee exist? The other part of that point is; that the Committee is supposed to consist of three Members of Parliament, three advocates and two other members under Sub-Section 2A(i) of the Act. Can he tell this House if that machinery is in place?

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member will remember in my Statement last week, I said that we are in the process of forming that committee. However, for the purpose of this matter at hand, after the Nakumatt directors appealed to the Minister, as is provided for under the Act, within 14 days, we discussed it within the Ministry and in the light of the fact that there were so many employees employed by this company, and the fact that the consignment was under customs custody, and the fact that Nakumatt has invested substantial amounts of money in this country, we decided to restore the trading licence.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I mentioned last week that, indeed, after liberalisation, it is true that several things need to be done in order to ensure that the laws of this country are obeyed so that when we are doing this liberalisation, some of these loopholes do not come up until some fellows take advantage of them. We are, however, working very hard to ensure that this thing does not happen again.

Mr. Mwaaura: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. When the Minister made his Statement in this House, he

admitted that Nakumatt had imported this meat from the United Kingdom, which meant that this was going to endanger Kenyan people. Why was the company not taken to court and prosecuted?

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are still carrying out investigations. Indeed, I might inform this honourable House that we still do not have any major document that would prove, one way or another, where the consignment comes from. Such a document would be, for example, the certificate of origin. We have requested for this document but, unfortunately, we are not getting a lot of co-operation from Nakumatt. They have refused to talk to us regarding this matter, and, therefore, we shall have no alternative but to continue carrying out our investigations as best as we can. Once we are ready, we will then take appropriate action.

Mr. Raila: Mr. Speaker, Sir, once upon a time, I was a Deputy Director of Kenya Bureau of Standards. Unless the Standards Act has been changed, there was really no reason for Kenya Bureau of Standards to be involved with this matter. Be that as it may, Mr. Speaker, Sir, can the Minister tell this House, if the action of the Government was really to protect the lives of Kenyans, why was it that a similar product from John West was being sold on 23rd of September in duty-free shops and even in NAAFI shops at the very same time, and no action was taken by the Ministry, against those particular establishments? Why was action taken to close Nakumatt shops when the meat was not in their shops, if the intention was not to finish them? The meat was still with the Customs Department.

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not just the intention. In fact, the Act proves to the whole country that we do care about the livelihood of our people and their health, as well as the possibility of this disease spreading to our livestock. As we all know, the livestock industry here in this country is very big. If we were to be subjected to the same kind of problem that Britain is going through today, having to eliminate the entire herd of their cattle, I do not know where this country would be. However, to answer the hon. Member's question, I answered exactly the same question in my Statement last week. But to repeat what I said, the answer is: We, as the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, have no jurisdiction over duty-free shops. For that reason, when this matter came to our attention last week, we have requested the Customs people who have jurisdiction over this matter, to ensure that all duty-free shops that exist in this country are also checked. If there is any meat or other products like that in those shops, appropriate action should be taken under the Customs Act.

Mr. Falana: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I congratulate the Minister on the action he took on the Nakumatt issue, I am worried about one thing. The Minister has assured us that this commodity will not be allowed into the country and sold in any of the Kenyan shops. He has fallen short of telling us how best the Government would dispose of this commodity. This is because now that it is in Mombasa, it can very easily find its way into the shelves. What is the Minister doing to make sure that this commodity is disposed off, now that it is in this country? Is he going to re-export it back, burn or bury it? How is he going to confirm to Kenyans that they are not going to eat this dangerous meat?

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I mentioned in my Statement last week that the Provincial Medical Officer of Health in the Coast Province requested Nakumatt to re-ship the 3.2 tonnes of beef back to Britain or whichever other country, but not Kenya, within 28 days, as from the date of 18th September, 1996. For that reason, we are sure that within the 28 days, this consignment will be re-shipped, if that has not been done already.

We are moving further than that to ensure that this thing does not happen again. We are putting under Schedule (C) of the Imports, Exports and Essential Supplies Act, all food imports, especially meat imports, to ensure that once any of these products arrive in our country, they will have to be re-tested again and certified to meet the basic health requirements.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Anyona, in less than half a minute, could you very briefly ask your last question?

Mr. Anyona: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Minister, since there clearly appears to have been some process of blackmail in this matter but could he tell us whether or not, as we are sitting here this afternoon, there are any consignment of beef imported from whichever country in our country which are being bought by our people, and could he assure us that those consignments are any safer than this one we are talking about?

Mr. M'Mukindia: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is a good question. I am not aware of any meat or other products existing in our supermarkets. However, as I mentioned again last week, all of us have to be vigilant. In fact, there seems to have been - before we took this action - some kind of syndicate that is specialising in importing expired food into this country. Unless, all of us remain vigilant and check the labels on the cans that we buy in our supermarkets and retail shops, there is nothing else we can do.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, next Order.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

*(Order for Committee read
being 12th Allotted Day)*

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 30 - Ministry of Energy

The Minister for Energy (Mr. D.M. Mbela): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

As the hon. Members are aware, energy is an important factor input in all human activities from cooking, lighting, heating, to agricultural production, industrial processing and transportation. The provision of adequate and reliable supply of energy is an essential prerequisite to national development. My Ministry is committed to ensuring that adequate supplies of energy are readily available in all parts of the country in line with national development goals.

The principal sources of energy used in the country for various socio-economic activities are electricity, petroleum and wood fuel. Solar energy is extensively exploited for drying purposes, while wind and bio-gas are utilised on a limited scale. I would like to give the highlights on the intensity of the current energy consumption of the three principal sources before I turn to give detailed breakdown of my Ministry's budgetary requirements for approval by this august House.

Petroleum remains the principal source of commercial energy in the country as it accounted for about 68 per cent of the country's commercial energy requirements in 1995. The overall demand for petroleum fuels went up by 2.6 per cent from 2.1 million tonnes in 1994 to 2.2 million tonnes in 1995. This is, in fact, about 5.5 times the consumption of Government. The transport sector in general was the largest consumer of petroleum fuels in 1995, accounting for 74 per cent of the total demand. On the other hand, petroleum consumption by the agricultural sector at about 4 per cent of the total demand was relatively very low compared to the sector's contribution to the GDP of 25 per cent in 1995. All I am saying is that there is room for agriculture to be mechanised so that we can improve on the GDP. The balance of the demand came from both the industrial and service sectors.

As the hon. Members are aware, petroleum fuels consume considerable amount of Kenya's foreign reserves. In 1995, for example, the country spent more than Kshs19 billions to finance her oil import bill and this accounted for more than 20 per cent of the total foreign exchange earnings from the commodities exports. To mitigate the negative balance of trade effects arising from the petroleum oil importation, the Government has been exploring for hydro-carbons since 1954. Arising from this effect, 30 wells have so far been drilled in Kenya, with some encouraging geological results, and this has given us impetus for continued exploration and, hopefully, luck will be on our side some day.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members will recall the oil market was largely deregulated in October 1994, consistent with the Government economic policy reform agenda. It is expected, therefore, that consequent upon the deregulation, more companies will enter the market and that consumers will gain from competitive pricing. I expect that, as a result of the competition, we will be able to get away from the cartels that are common, particularly among the eight foreign companies.

My Ministry has also noted with concern the frequent shortages of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) which wananchi have continued to experience since the middle of 1980s due to the inability of the Kenya Petroleum Refineries to match supply to demand, and lack of LPG importing handling facilities at Mombasa. To redress this imbalance, the Government, through my Ministry, has decided to construct LPG importing handling facilities which are expected to be ready within the next 24 months. Thereafter, we do not expect to have any shortages of LPG.

As regards electricity, I would say it plays an important role in Kenya's economic and social developments. To date, the installed power generation capacity in the country is about 790 megawatts. In addition, some contractual 30 megawatts, equivalent to 5 per cent of electricity consumed in the country, is imported from Uganda when available. Unfortunately, these 30 megawatts come from Uganda during the off-pick period when we are asleep and Kenya does not need it. But we are still prepared and willing to even look at the cost of producing electricity from Uganda since the agreement was entered into many years ago. Hydro-power generation is by far the most important supplying 683 megawatts which in 1995 accounted for 83 per cent of the total electricity generated. Geothermal resources and oil based thermal generation accounted for 45 megawatts, and 160 megawatts respectively in 1995.

In terms of electricity generation, geothermal and oil fuel contributed to 9 per cent and 8 per cent of the generation respectively. Needless to say that this capacity is inadequate to meet the current demand for the electricity when account is taken of generating capacity taken out either for routine maintenance or repairs. For example, the

current above normal rationing of power has been necessitated by the decommissioning of one of the 72 megawatts units at Kiambere Hydro-Power Station while the second unit has been deregulated to 55 megawatts to avoid damage as it is also due for major maintenance. This situation has been brought about by the lack of investments in addition to generating capacity over the last five years due to donor aid embargo over the same period to match an average growth in demand of 5 per cent per annum.

Currently, the demand for electricity in the country stands at more than 3.4 billion megawatts, and to meet this demand without any supply interruptions, a new generating capacity of 88 megawatts is urgently required. Five power projects are programmed for development between 1997 and 2001 on the basis of least-cost five-year-development plan prepared by the Ministry in consultation with the World Bank, with a combined installed capacity of 338 megawatts. The five projects are a 60 megawatts hydro-plant on river Sondu-Miriu, two-64 megawatts geothermal plant at Ol-Karia, and two 75 megawatts diesel generating plants in Kipevu, a 64 megawatts geothermal plant which we refer to as Ol-Karia III and a 75 diesel plant which we refer to at Kipevu II will be developed by the private sector.

As an interim measure to redress the current acute power supply shortfalls, while projects programmed for development under the five-year least-cost-development programmes are being constructed, arrangements have been finalised through international bidding procedures for Independent Power Producers, who we refer to as "IPP" to put up on fast track basis, two fire-oil-power plants. Nine companies tendered for the two projects from which two were selected after detailed evaluation. The two plants which should have a combined effective generating capacity of 87.5 megawatts are expected to be fully operational between February and June, 1997. One plant will be constructed at Nairobi and the other one will be at Kilindini Harbour.

Of the 87.5 megawatts, 44.5 megawatts would be additional to the current overall generation, while 43 megawatts would replace generation by old equipment which has been retired for being uneconomical. Geothermal generation has consistently been identified in the power sector studies as providing electrical energy at the lowest cost per kilowatt hour among other generation sources in Kenya. Emphasis is, therefore, being placed on the development of this resource in the country's power generation plants. In this regard, in addition to two-64 megawatts plants scheduled for development between 1997 and the year 2001, five more 65 megawatts geothermal plants are expected to be developed between the years 2004 and 2011. These plants would be operated as best load and will provide power supply stability, particularly during the period of above normal droughts. In total, we expect a generating capacity by the year 2011 of 493 megawatts coming out of geothermal.

In addition to increasing the electric power supply capacity in the country, the Government is in the process of organising the power industry in order to improve efficiency in provision of the services to consumers. Two separate companies, one for transmission and distribution, and the other for generation of power will soon be set up. An autonomous electricity regulatory body will be created under the Electric Power Act, to among other things, regulate the operations of the power sub-sector. A Bill to amend the Electric Power Act will be presented to this august House soon for debate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regards to wood fuel, hon. Members may note that the national demand for firewood and charcoal, commonly known as "wood fuel" by the scientific community, accounts for 73 per cent of the total primary energy consumption. Viewed from another perspective, the combined demand for these two energy products accounts for about 94 per cent of the national consumption of wood. The balance of the national demand of about 6 per cent is accounted for by industrial wood feedstock, including consumption for building and fencing by rural households. Until the domestic economy is transformed from heavy dependency on agriculture to one based on industrial output, these statistics clearly indicate that wood fuel would continue to be a major source of primary energy in the long term in the country. The average wood fuel and charcoal demand is projected to increase by 3.5 per cent and 5.3 per cent per annum, respectively between now and the year 2005.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the heavy reliance on wood fuel has posed a great threat to our country's environment. This has been aggravated by the increasing population and a re-planned destruction of forests to clear land for agricultural purposes. My Ministry is redressing this problem by promoting increased on-farm tree planting and propagating the use of energy-saving-cooking stoves.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, alternative energy sources in Kenya include solar, wind, biogas, and bugasse. Combined together, these sources of energy currently contribute only a small fraction of the current's total energy matrix, although they have great potential of making a larger contribution to energy supply in remote parts of the country. The Government will continue to promote their use wherever this mode of energy supply is easily available and when cost effective. The Government will encourage and support the establishment of local fabrication of cheap solar, wind and biogas units and supply research programmes with a view to taking a leading role in increasing local expertise through provision of adequate training.

Solar-photo-voltaic energy, despite its slow development, has over the last three decades, demonstrated that it

is economically competitive with electricity from the national grid in remote towns and public facilities. The cost of erecting a distribution line in the 11 to 33 KV range today stands at Kshs600,000 per kilometre. Added onto this is the cost of step-down transformer of approximately between Kshs72,000 and Kshs100,000 for a 50 KVA transformer.

A small photo-voltaic unit or solar unit supplying two lighting units costs about Kshs40,000. In view of these photo-voltaic systems, a more cost-effective in areas of low-population density which would make extensions of the national grid economically very unattractive. But judging from the current international prices of solar photo-voltaic systems of about US\$6,000 per kilowatt, the prices being charged by the local businessmen are relatively much higher, even after taking into account the combined duty and VAT of between 10 per cent and 32 per cent levied on such systems. I am, therefore, appealing to the business community to reduce the prices of these systems in order to encourage their widespread application.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, having made these remarks, I now wish to elaborate on these activities for which I seek financial support for the fiscal year 1996/97 and for which my Ministry is seeking authority for a total expenditure of K£143,998,140, broken down as follows:-

Development Expenditure - K£132,644,799

Recurrent Expenditure - K£11,353,341

On Headquarters and Administrative Services, K£1,285,827 is required to fund the following projects and activities which are Minor Alterations and Maintenance Works:-

Construction of ASK Show Stands and Technical Advisory Services.

Out of this amount, K£1.2 million will be external funding from IDA in support of Technical Advisory Services.

Mr. Michuki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order in a situation where we have either Pounds, Shillings or Cents for the Minister to continue reading figures without saying whether they are in Shillings or in Pounds?

The Minister for Energy (Mr. D.M. Mbela): I apologise, if I have not stated, but, the figures I am going to quote are in Kenya Pounds. The balance will be provided by the Exchequer. From the Headquarters Planning Services, the Ministry is requesting for K£66,000 to finance three-development studies, that is Energy Data Supplies and District Energy Development Programmes. On Wood Fuel Resources Development, my Ministry is requesting the Exchequer to make available K£888,770 while the balance will be Appropriations-in-Aid from the Netherlands.

The Ministry has established new energy centres in Migori, Kericho, Uasin Gishu and Busia District. These, together with the already existing centres and other District based Wood Fuel Orientated Institutions, require funds to carry out several wood fuel programmes. Namely:-

Research and development of wood fuel stoves or energy-saving jikos.

Wood fuel development programmes in the districts and promotion and training in biogas technology.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Alternative Energy Technologies, the net amount being sought from the Exchequer under this sub-head is K£105,151 for research and promotional activities in alternative energy technologies. Mostly solar, wind and for energy conservation programmes. We also require K£12,342 from the Exchequer for the sub-head of Kenya Energy Laboratory which will be used for purchasing equipment and demonstration materials for promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, in addition to training.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the National Grid Systems, I am asking for K£7,950,000 which is equivalent to KShs159 million which will come as Appropriations-in-Aid from Kenya Power and Lighting Company, to be spent towards the support of the power sector projects, namely:-

The 75 megawatts diesel plant and Coastal distribution system reinforcement and Kiambere-Nairobi 220 KV and power loss reduction.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Geothermal Resources Exploration, I am asking for K£20,273,610. These activities include geothermal and geophysical exploration in North Rift and local distribution for construction of Olkaria II Power Station. I am requesting for K£344,985 from the Exchequer while the remaining K£19,928,625 will be Appropriations-in-Aid from IDA and Kenya Power and Lighting Company.

During this financial year, my Ministry will require a total of K£41,815,000 for rural electrification projects countrywide. I am requesting the House to provide some K£12,815 while the balance of K£11 million will come from Kenya Power and Lighting Company which contributes two per cent of its gross annual sales revenue towards the Rural Electrification Programme.

Customers will contribute K£1.5 million through cost-sharing, and the African Development Bank will contribute K£1 million to finance rural electrification master plan. The African Development Bank will contribute K£1 million to finance Rural Electrification Master Plan, while the European Union will make available K£15 million during this financial year in form of a grant under the stabilisation of export earnings (STABEX), under the Lome Convention. These funds will be used towards the electrification of coffee factories countrywide. Plans to commence work on this project are at an advanced stage and 991 co-operative societies will benefit from the project

which is programmed to run for four years. Consumers adjacent to the factories will benefit. Because the list is very long, I do not propose to read it, but hon. Members who are interested can be able to have a look at the list which I am tabling.

(Mr. D.M. Mbela laid the document on the Table)

When completed, the master plan will facilitate identification and cost effective projects to be constructed under the Rural Electrification Programme countrywide.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, while on the same subject, I would like to take the opportunity to say that, although funds get voted to this level by this House, we get problems because the Exchequer releases normally delay the implementation of the projects.

On hydro-electric-power development, I would like to say that, one of my Ministry's objectives is to continue with development of domestic hydro electric power stations to meet the increasing demand for electricity. To further the country's hydro potential, the Ministry requires K£3.8 million for Sondu-Miriu Hydro Electric Project all of which will be Appropriations-in-Aid from Kenya Power and Lighting Company. This will be spent towards land compensation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the planning of the Ministry, we expect this to be phase I of a project, that will have Magwaga generating 100 megawatts upstream as phase II. We are expecting to get a loan from Japan amounting to K\$128 million for Sondu-Miriu Project. The project cost is expected to be K\$180 million, but the balance will be found from Kenya Government sources.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like now to turn to the National Oil Corporation of Kenya. In a bid to offer competitive petroleum prices within the country, the National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK) will continue to participate in oil trading. It is anticipated that the Corporation will soon start operating outlets, starting with Kisumu, Nakuru and Eldoret. Plans are under way to construct more service stations beginning with the major towns and moving out to the rural areas. The Corporation will also undertake measures aimed at stimulating the interests of international oil companies in oil exploration in the country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, between the years 1990 and 1993, we had to import petroleum products at a loss. The first importation in 1990 was during the Gulf War when no other oil company could undertake the risk. Subsequently, National Oil Corporation imported oil cargoes at a time when the dollar was appreciating; eventually occasioning huge losses. This amounted to K£16,458,394. I am requesting the House to approve this amount in order to compensate the Corporation out of the Petroleum Development Levy.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

The Assistant Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Ligale): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second this very important Vote which has been moved ably by the hon. Minister for Energy. I would like to congratulate him and his staff for putting together this write up on an important sector.

As indicated by the Minister, Energy is the prime mover of any economy in any country. Without energy, no economy can grow. We have, so far, done well in this country but over the last three or four years, owing to lack of investments because of the donor funding freezes, we were not able to invest particularly in electricity which is the most important aspect of our energy requirements, particularly for industrial development and transport sectors. We need to move fairly quickly to be able to restore confidence, particularly in the industrial sector because at the moment any investors who want to come and put up plants that will alleviate our unemployment problems are increasingly finding it difficult to do so, because of the power deficiencies that have occurred over the last three years and which will continue to occur. As everybody knows, to invest in a power plant, does not only take a major decision but it also takes time to be able to implement any one project that can yield appreciable power generation.

If I may just refer to the three major areas of our power requirements that the Minister has so ably inundated a few minutes ago with regard to petroleum, it is quite clear that this country does utilise a very high proportion of its scarce foreign exchange earnings on importation of petroleum products. Until now, this was done mainly by the major marketers who have had a monopoly in this area. Although the Minister has indicated that this sector has been deregulated and he hopes that other players might come into the market, and hopefully, be able to reduce and give the Kenyan consumer an advantage, we have yet to see the minimal players in this sector. It is still very largely controlled by the main eight marketers who are operating a cartel. The National Oil Corporation is slowly coming into play but as you heard, in their initial attempts to try and import oil, they have made a very large loss which we are being requested to underwrite and I would urge that we do so. That is the only way we can be able to assist this Corporation to be able to enter this very tricky market and be able to make an impact. I would also hope that we can be able to encourage some of the other local people who have the capacity to be able to import finished products so that they can also compete in the market.

One aspect of this importation that we must emphasise here is the fact that, if our oil refinery at Mombasa was upgraded, we would cut our oil fuel imports by at least 40 per cent. At the moment, out of all the crude oil that we do import and which is processed by the Mombasa Oil Refinery, 40 per cent goes back as fuel oil which has to go back to cracking units in Singapore and those Far Eastern countries which have the capacity. A study that was carried out by a firm of consultants in the early 1980s did indicate that our oil refinery could be revamped and upgraded so that it can have cracking units to be able to knock further the fuel oil that we are exporting at the moment, so that it can provide more white oil. That has not been pursued mainly because of the intransigence of our other participators in the oil refinery. As far as they are concerned, they are making money and they do not have to invest, they are quite comfortable to carry on the way they are carrying on. We own 60 per cent of that oil refinery and I think we should exercise our rights a little more firmly and to come down heavily on them and say that they must invest now, so that we can upgrade that oil refinery. Even if we were to import our oil imports by 20 per cent, out of Kshs19 million, that is quite substantial. It is a matter that needs pursuing fairly, urgently.

I was gratified to hear from the Minister that they are now going to put up facilities at the Coast which can enable us to handle LPG. A Kenyan housewife does suffer a lot when we have these shortages of LPG mainly because they do not produce enough at our own oil refinery and because we do not have handling facilities for importation of LPG from other sources. So, I was gratified to hear that the Ministry is going to undertake the construction of that facility.

On electricity, I must commend our main actors in this: The Kenya Power and Lighting Company and others who are going to produce power. Up to now, we have done extremely well. For a country that does not have too many rivers that can produce power to be able to produce the amount of electricity which we have been able to produce, then, we have done extremely well. I know that currently, we are suffering from shortages principally because we did not invest over the last two or three years. But we have done a good job. It is always the few companies that have been reasonably efficient. I would urge them to continue to be efficient, because we are too often riddled with Corporations and parastatals that perform below par. The Kenya Power and Lighting Company has so far done a commendable job and we would like to encourage them to continue to do so.

On the Rural Electrification Programme, the majority of Kenyans out there in the rural areas want to get access to power to be able to come up with Jua Kali projects, light essential facilities like clinics, schools and so on. But as the Minister did indicate, at the moment, the cost of transmission and the cost of transformers is prohibitively high. We have talked about this problem over the years but it would appear that there is no way we would be able to bring it down to a reasonable level that can enable most Kenyans to get access to lighting power. When we are provided for, and the Minister has indicated very impressive figures that he wants, including some sources from the European Union and other donors, the Exchequer releases have not come readily and on time to enable that programme to proceed on time. I would urge our colleagues in the Treasury to release those funds on a timely basis, so that Kenya Power and Lighting Company which installs electric power on this basis can be able to do so diligently and with speed. If those releases came on time, a few more places in the rural areas would be able to benefit from this all important commodity. While talking about shortages, at the moment, in electrical power generation and the cost of transmission, we must also admit that there could be a lot of savings in electric power consumption and some of our own plants and boilers in this country particularly in the industries are old and they are actually losing a lot of power which could be saved if we installed devices that can conserve energy. If you go to Europe and some of the developed countries, this is a major element; that energy must be conserved and they have had to instal devices that are able to conserve energy so that you do not continue to produce power that is dissipated owing to antiquated and old equipment that cannot be reprieved.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I am running short of time but I also want to comment on the question of independent power producers. The Minister did indicate that he is now giving two or three projects to these people. I think, as he regulates the power sector, he should be able to allow for many more of these people to play a part in this sector.

With those few remarks, I second.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Raila: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This is a very, very important Vote, the Ministry of Energy, because as the Seconder has rightly said, energy is the engine of the nation. It is a very, very important item indeed. I notice an increase of nearly ten times from last year's budgetary provision. That is K£14 million to K£132 million and under the Sub-vote relating to Electric Power, there is an increase from K£10 million to K£73 million. The Minister has not given sufficient justification for such an enormous increase. Then under Petroleum Exploration and Substitution Sub-vote, there is an increase from K£705,000 to K£31,827,000. Now, we have heard a lot said about

petroleum exploration since the early 1970's. On a number of occasions we have been told that they are almost on the verge of discovering oil in this country. At one time it was said that it was supposed to be in Lamu. Another time they talked of somewhere in Turkana. Another time they talked of somewhere in North Eastern Province. Now, today the Minister tells us that a total of 30 wells have been drilled with very good prospects of discovery. This is a very vague statement; 30 wells and over what period? And what is the cost of sinking one well? If you are being asked to approve an increase of nearly 30 times, we have to get more justification rather than just being told that there are good prospects. There have been good prospects for nearly the last 25 years.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, still on petroleum, we are being told that the Government spent K£19 billion in importing petroleum last year. We are now being told that we should underwrite the loss incurred by the National Oil Corporation (NOCK) so that it can be enabled to venture into this very competitive market of oil importation and marketing.

[Mr. Speaker left the Chair]

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

But Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the National Oil Corporation (NOCK) just like any of those other State Corporations has not been properly managed. It is one of those Corporations that have been politicised. It is one of those Corporations where efficiency or merit has never been taken into consideration in terms of appointment. The National Oil Corporation of Kenya (NOCK) is a Corporation that does not even reply to letters written to it. Why should we try to help a bunch of inefficient Kenyans to venture into business which they are not able to run?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we would like our people to venture into a business of this nature but they themselves have to show that they are capable of competing. We have been told that plans are on hand to set up LPG storage facilities at the Port of Mombasa. This is a very welcome move but to the best of my knowledge, the negotiations with the World Bank have not been completed. We are being told that these facilities are going to be completed within the next 24 months. Could we be told where this money is going to come from because to the best of my knowledge, no proper financial arrangement has been finalised between the Government and the World Bank?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I now turn to the area of electric power. The Minister should have told this House that this country currently faces an energy crisis. It is a fact that most industries in this country have been operating under capacity for the last eight months. I know this for a fact, that for example, in industrial area, we have to shut down everyday from six o'clock to ten o'clock. This is seriously affecting the operations of industries in the country and the problem is not going to be solved until we increase our generating capacity. The short term measure is to continue to import energy from Uganda and I do agree with the Ugandan Government that the agreement which was negotiated and signed way back in 1954, when both countries were still colonies, ought to be reviewed. I do agree that 20 cents per unit is not enough to off-set the generating cost of electricity even in Uganda and that this matter should be negotiated as a matter of urgency.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the question of the running of Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) itself, the slow pace of liberalisation of Kenya Power and Lighting is very discouraging to the business community. There has been politicisation of the management of Kenya Power and Lighting. The Managing Director of Kenya Power and Lighting Company is at all public harambees spending the company's money wherever the Government goes. We did see it in Kipipiri when the people of Kipipiri, during the campaign, were promised electricity and, indeed the Kenya Power and Lighting Company moved its staff and began erecting poles. I saw the poles in Ol Kalou, to supposedly provide power to Kipipiri on condition that they did agree to vote for KANU. When the people of Kipipiri voted otherwise, the electric poles which already had been taken to Ol Kalou were removed and transported back to the stores. Now, this shows that the Kenya Power and Lighting Company is being used by the Government as a tool for campaigning; that wherever the Government goes, it makes promises to people that it will provide power if the people agree to defect or if they agree to change and join KANU.

An hon. Member: Say it again!

Mr. Raila: The Kenya Power and Lighting Company is supposed to be run on a commercial basis. It should not be used for political campaigns by KANU. The consumers who are being charged to subsidised these political activities of KANU are being cheated by the Government itself. We would like to see the Kenya Power and Lighting Company Limited (KPLC) properly decentralised. We would also like to see more private sector participation in this very important field of our national activities. We would like to see this monopoly and monopsony, that has been enjoyed by the KPLC for far too long, completely removed. We would like to urge the Minister to also try and inject more professionalism and reduce tribalism and nepotism in the management of the

affairs of the KPLC.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, we would like to see a more efficiently run oil refinery. It is true that this refinery was brought in here in 1961 as a second hand one from Singapore. It is true that the oil companies have resisted investment in upgrading of this oil refinery. But the oil companies have been assisted at one time by the Government itself. The Government, as a participant and shareholder, can demand and actually compel the other shareholders, who have been reaping millions of shillings of profits out of the refinery, to invest in the upgrading of the refinery. There was a time when it would have cost only Kshs300 million to put up a cut-cracking unit, that would have enabled the refinery to produce lead-free gasoline. When we were writing specifications for lead-free gasoline it was none other than this Government that frustrated the efforts of the Kenya Bureau Standards. So, it is double talk. On the one hand the Government comes and says that it wants to protect the interests of the Kenyan consumers, while on the hand the very same Government is colluding with oil companies.

With those few remarks I beg to oppose.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to say a few words in support of the Vote of the Ministry of Energy. First all, I think hon. Raila opposes this Vote because in Langata there is no problem of electricity, but I want to say that we who come from rural areas are very concerned about supply of electricity.

First of all, I wish to support the Vote of the Ministry of Energy because it is one of the most important Government Ministries whose responsibilities touch on the lives of all Kenyans. The Ministry is involved in an area that is of great concern to all of us. This is the area of rural electrification. We who come from rural areas would like to urge the Ministry, particularly the KPLC, which is under the Ministry of Energy, to do its utmost and speed up the Rural Electrification Programme. This is because in certain areas, particularly farming ones, where people are willing and ready to contribute money in order to team up with the Government in providing electricity, sometimes implementation of such programmes takes too long. Take for example, the programme for providing electricity to coffee factories. We are all aware that if processing of coffee was done using electricity, productivity would go up by about 15 per cent and, thereby, saving the small-scale farmers a lot of money. I, therefore, would like to ask the Ministry to ensure that the money, which the Minister talked about, is provided for electrification of coffee factories. In particular, in Murang'a, we would like the programme to be implemented as soon as is practicable. This is because I know farmers have been waiting for this programme for years and years. At the same time, we would like to see provision of electricity to coffee factories also benefiting other institutions like schools, dispensaries, health centres and churches, and also individuals who have the capacity to take electricity to their homesteads. In some cases, when you go to rural areas you see miles of wires taking electricity to particular destinations and yet schools, dispensaries and individuals cannot be provided with electricity because of the sheer cost of transformers. I think it is important that the Government invests a little more in transformers and then local people can provide the money to connect electricity to their homesteads, schools, dispensaries and market centres. This excuse about lack of transformers is really frustrating people in rural areas, who see electricity in tea factories and other places but not in their own homes or institutions around them.

The other point that I would like to talk on is the question of petroleum exploration. We are not so unlucky in Africa that we have been unable to discover oil within our own borders. We suspect that we have petroleum in this country, but because of external interests we are unable to know the truth about what is underground in our home land.

It is important that the Minister takes steps to ensure that we have as many of our own people involved in petroleum exploration as is possible. There is no reason why all other countries which surround us, including Tanzania, have been able to discover oil, while we have not been able to do that. I think there is need for a certain amount of nationalism in this matter. Therefore, we should utilise as much as we can our own people in oil exploration. We know that this country is not lacking manpower in all sectors of our national life. Therefore, petroleum exploration should be put in the hands of our own people.

On the same point of oil exploration, I would like to call upon the Ministry of Energy to look into the possibility of making petroleum companies go public, so that Kenyans themselves can participate in their affairs. We have seen companies like Total, which went public and sold some shares to the public make an exorbitant amount of money. Companies like Shell, Caltex, Esso, Agip, Kobil and Kenol should be asked to go public so that Kenyans can share the benefit which is derived from the business of petrol because this is a product which is in use and it will be in use today, tomorrow and years to come. So, as many Kenyans as possible should be given opportunities to participate in commerce in this country. Therefore, I would like to call upon the Ministry of Energy to urge or push these oil companies to go public and sell shares to the Kenyans because Kenyans would like to invest and to participate in the economic activities in the country.

Mr. Orengo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Can hon. Kamotho declare his interest on this matter because the Standing Orders require that if an hon. Member is contributing on a matter which he

has interest, he has to declare his interest? As an owner of petrol stations, he should declare his interest so that---

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): I will buy the shares.

Mr. Orengo: I am not disagreeing with you, but all I am saying that the Standing Orders require of you to declare your interest so that we know why you want to buy shares in Kobil.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I do own some petrol stations. I also have some shares in Total and I will also buy shares in Shell if they sell their own shares today. Therefore, there is nothing wrong. I am a Kenyan and I have every right. Hon. Orengo should have asked hon. Raila his interest in the oil industry because he owns the East African Spectre, which manufactures the gas cylinders which we buy all over the country. I think hon. Orengo is being tribal, that is why he asked about my interest in the oil industry.

Mr. Orengo: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for hon. Kamotho to infer improper motives on my part by saying that I am being tribal? Hon. Raila was contributing and the hon. Minister was sitting there in all, and instead of standing up and speaking, he stayed there until hon. Raila finished his contribution.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): That is not a point of order.

Mr. Orengo: It is a point of order as he is imputing improper motives.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Kamotho): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have no quarrel with hon. Raila owning a company which manufactures gas cylinders. Therefore, I had no business to stand on a point of order and ask him anything. Mr. last point is on the cost of electricity to consumers. Electricity is too expensive and we must look for a way of controlling the continuously escalating prices of domestic electricity. Schools in this country are good paymasters of electricity, but it is too expensive. Can we look into ways and means of even having special tariffs for public institutions like schools, health centres and dispensaries?

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

Mr. Mathenge: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as most people know, electricity in a country is a very important infrastructure. I am aware the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) tries hard to supply electricity mostly to rural areas as well as to industries in Nairobi, Mombasa and other towns. But I would like to take this opportunity to let the Minister for Energy know that frequent power failures throughout the country, are causing this country a great loss in revenue. If you take industries in Nairobi and Mombasa, when there are power cuts, huge generators have to be started and then stopped again after hours and, sometimes, people have to be laid off. People have to be laid off just because of power failures. This costs this country loss of hours that people should have utilised in manufacturing goods in factories. So, the Minister for Energy should, together with the Managing Director of KPLC, ensure that power cuts are reduced to a minimum.

I have listened to the Minister saying that there will be money or he will ask for money for the Rural Electrification Programme. This is necessary because in my home constituency of Nyeri, very many projects which were approved by the District Development Committee (DDC) have not taken off from the ground. Some of the projects approved by the Nyeri DDC were approved even before I came to this Parliament. Since I came to this Parliament, I have seen no development in Nyeri under the Rural Electrification Programme undertaken by the Ministry of Energy. I now hope that after we approve this Budget, the Minister for Energy will see that we get some projects re-started in Nyeri. We have projects in my own constituency and others in the divisions of: Tetu, Mathira, Mukurweini and elsewhere. Those projects should be completed this year and next year. I know the Managing Director of KPLC takes interest in his work and I would like to make a request to the hon. Minister to make sure that people of Nyeri, at least, get a share of what we pass in this House.

I think the Minister was right in saying that delays in implementing decisions are caused by the Treasury delays in releasing funds for development. That is, the Treasury does not release the Authority to Incur Expenditure (AIEs). Although on the Printed Estimates, we see amounts approved by this House, when we go to check in our areas, officers on the ground tell us that they cannot spend the money shown in the Estimates because the Treasury has not issued them with AIEs. This is a matter that should be looked into. As soon as we pass the money here, we know taxes are being collected, and it is up to the recently established Kenya Revenue Authority to ensure that money goes to the Treasury so that it can be released for development on time. We would also like electricity to be supplied to coffee factories. Although I disagree with my friend, hon. Kamotho, on some things, today I support him most strongly for what he said. **An hon. Member:** What about other days?

Mr. Mathenge: Other days I do not support him because he is "notorious". But today, I stand by what he has said here and that is what he should be doing here more than what he does. He should be advocating for development. There is nothing wrong in his owning a million shares in Total, or several petrol stations. He should own even more of that, but he must remember that we need support for development because KANU propaganda will

not always help us.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want positive development in this country. We need power for irrigation because people are now engaged in horticultural farming. We need to have generators in the rivers to pump water to the farms. We need that and the Minister should see to it that there is enough electricity in the rural areas in order for the people to develop their farms.

We also need electricity in poultry keeping because we need it for the hatching of chicken. We need electricity so that people can instal hatcheries in the rural areas. We also need electricity in the butcheries so that people can conserve their meat, eggs and other consumable goods. When you have power failure even chemicals like drugs for cattle stored in the refrigerators go bad. Medical drugs stored in the refrigerators also go bad. In the mortuaries, when we have power cuts, bodies there decompose and you have a stench coming from hospitals. So, we strongly object to power cuts and we would request the Minister to see to it that these power cuts are minimized.

We also want to see the officers of Kenya Power and Lighting Company listening to people who go to them to seek advice. I thank the Managing Director for listening to people who go to seek his assistance and advice. Thank you. That is enough for today.

Mr. Boy: Ahsante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii niunge mkono Hoja hii muhimu sana. Naiunga mkono kwa sababu Wizara hii ni muhimu sana katika maisha ya Wakenya.

Pili, naunga mkono Waziri wa Wizara hii, Bw. Mbela, kwa sababu popote aendapo, anafanya mambo ya kuonekana.

Hon. Members: Aah! Aah! Aah!

Mr. Boy: Ukweli usemwe. Alipokuwa katika Wizara inayohusika na maji, kulikuwa na mabadiliko; alipokuwa katika Wizara inayohusika na ardhi kulikuwa na mabadiliko na hivi sasa Katika Wizara ya Kawi tutakuwa na matumaini ya mabadiliko.

Hon. Members: Hakuna!

Mr. Boy: Ukweli usemwe! Hata kama wengine wamekasirika wasiage vijembe, wale, tutakwenda mazishi yao! Ukweli wa mambo ni kwamba, hivi sasa Wizara hii imebakia na vitu vichache sana vya kuzungumziwa. Kando ya mafuta, kitu muhimu ni umeme. Ninataka kumshukuru Mkurugenzi mkuu wa Kenya Power and Lighting Company hii ambaye yuko hapa kwa sababu ni mmoja kati ya Wakurugenzi ambao wako tayari kusaidia yeyote yule aliye na shida. Tumewaona wakurugenzi wengi ambao hawawezi kuwaona watu wakiwa na shida. Hata ni rahisi kumwona Rais kuliko kuwaona! Wao ni wakubwa sana na wako karibu na Mwenyezi Mungu lakini wengine kama Bw. Gichuru, wako tayari kusaidia. Tunamshukuru sana. Ninamshukuru kwa sababu alinisaidia katika msikiti wa Ng'ombeni ambao ulikuwa umetozwa karibu laki nne kama malipo ya umeme.

Kitu ambacho ninataka kusema ni kwamba, kila mwaka ninawaona hawa maofisa hapa na huu ni mwaka wangu wa 14 kuwa katika Bunge hili na nitakuwapo miaka mingine ijayo bila wasiwasi wowote. Miaka hii yote, tumekuwa tukizungumza juu ya Rural Electrification Programme lakini hawa maofisa huja hapa, wakasikiza tukipitisha pesa za Wizara yao, kisha wakaenda zao. Hatujaona hata jambo mmoja tulilosema kwa miaka 14 ambalo limetimizwa. Ninataka Waziri afahamu kwamba, yale maoni ambayo tumetoa katika Bunge hili hakuna hata mmoja ambayo imetimizwa. Yaani kazi yetu ni kuja hapa, kupiga kura na kisha jamaa wanaenda kufanya mambo yao. Hii ni hatari kubwa.

Mr. Mutahi: Wewe, Bw. Boy, ndiyo mpigaji kura mkubwa!

Mr. Boy: Unaona kule ninaambiwa kuwa mimi ndio mpigaji kura mkubwa! Tunachoomba kikubwa ni kwamba maneno haya yanayosemwa na viongozi yaonekane. Nitatoa mfano.

Kule kwetu tunapakana na Tanzania na hiyo sehemu inajulikana kama Lunga Lunga. Hapo mnamo mwaka wa 1992, wakati Uchaguzi Mkuu ulipokuwa umekaribia, watu wakutoka Wizara ya Kawi walitembelea hiyo sehemu, wakafanya survey, wakatoa form kwa watu kuzijaza ili wapate umeme. Wakaambiwa kwamba Lunga Lunga kutakuwa na umeme. Tukatingisa vidole vizuri sana. Tukafurahi na kufungua kinya hadi meno yote kuonekana. Baada ya 1992, hawa watu wote walihama na mpaka leo hawajaonekana huko.

Kuna uwongo mwingine ambao ni uwongo mweupe. Tulipouliza juu ya jambo hilo hapa tuliambiwa kwamba kulikuwa na maafikiana baina ya Wizara za Kawi za nchi ya Kenya na Tanzania na jambo hilo lingejadiliwa karibuni. Mwaka 1997 waja tena na sijui mtasema nini safari hii maanake ule uwongo wa 1992 haujamalizika bado. Hawa jamaa ni hatari bin danger wanaweza kuja na uwongo mwingine! Ule ni mpaka na upande wa Tanzania kuna umeme lakini upande wetu tunatumia mishumaa. Hii ni aibu kubwa! Lakini tuna matumaini kwa vile Waziri Mhe. Mbela ni mtu wakutembea sana, ingawa maofisa wake wanakaa sana ndani ya maofisi, atafika hapo mpakani akatazame aibu inayofanyika. Maofisa wa Customs na maofisa wa polisi wakitaka kuangalia kitu lazima waashe generator na wakati mwingine hata hakuna mafuta. Sasa hapo mwaka wa 1992, tuliambiwa kwamba umeme utafika Lunga Lunga na hivi sasa hakuna dalili ya kufika. Sijui hapo 1997 tutaambiwa nini.

Nikitoka hapo nitazungumza juu ya Rural Electrification Programme iliyokuwa inaendelea Msambweni.

Umeme ulifika mahali panaitwa Mhaka, kilometa 23 kutoka makao ya tarafa ambayo yanaitwa Kubo. Kule kwa division headquarters umeme haujafika hata leo. Tukiuliza tunaambiwa hilo ni jambo la DDC. Kuna neno kubwa siku hizi Serikali hutumia, DDC. Lakini kwa bahati nzuri DDC za Kwale hupitisha mambo mbeleni. Miaka iliyopita tulipitisha kila kitu ambacho tunasema lakini bado hapa tunaambiwa kwamba mpaka DDC ipitishwe. Ombi letu ni kwamba umeme ufike Kubo Headquarters. Kutoka pale ulipokomea hadi Shimba Hills ni kilometa 23 na maneno haya niliyasema mwaka jana, mwaka juzi, 1993 na 1994 na wakubwa wanitazama tu. Kila wakija ninachooni ni tai mpya na suit mpya tu na ilhali umeme kule Kubo siuoni.

Pili, swala muhimu ni transformers. Hapa kulikuwa na Hoja iliyojadiliwa na Wabunge na Waziri kwa kujibu akasema kwamba, transformers zitakuwa subsidized lakini mpaka leo bei za transformers ziko juu sana kwa watu wengi. Sasa umeme huu ni wamatajiri peke yao? Huu umeme uliletwa matajiri? Wazungu kule kwetu wana mahoteli makubwa na pia wakubwa hawa wote wana mahoteli kule. Tutakuja kuwafukuza miaka ijayo. Hatuna umeme, mnakuja kufanya nini huko? Hili ndilo jambo la muhimu sana. Tunachotaka ni transformers ziwe za bei ya chini.

Jambo lingine ni sehemu ambayo power line imepitia, kwa mfano, Waa, Tiwi na Ng'ombeni. Hapo hakuna haja ya Rural Electrification bali kupunguza bei ya transformer ili watu wavute umeme. Kila kitu ni Rural Electrification hata kitu kilicho wazi mwataka Rural Electrification?

Nikitoka hapo twende katika maneno ya ukweli. Wizara hii ya Kawi ndiyo inajishughulisha na mafuta na mafuta ndio uhai wa nchi hii. Tuseme ukweli. Ushuru unaotzwa na Serikali ndio mzigo mkubwa kwa bei ya mafuta leo. Ukweli usemwe peupe. Huu ushuru uko kwa majina kama vile VAT, Sales Tax, Petroleum Duty nakadhalika. Kila kitu kimerundikwa juu ya mafuta. Hii ni dhambi. Imefanya bei ya mafuta hapa Kenya kuwa ya juu zaidi kushinda nchi nyingine yoyote. Zamani tulikuwa tunaambiwa kwamba dollar imepanda na dollar ikishuka hakuna kushuka kwa bei ya mafuta. Bei hubaki pale pale mwaka nenda mwaka rudi. Wakubwa hawa wote huendesha Mercedes Benz na kwa hivyo hawaoni shida ya mafuta. Hawa wakubwa wanaendesha Pajeros lakini sisi tunaozunguka na magari makuu kuu ni hatari. Bei ya matatu inapanda, na bei ya diesel pia inapanda. Wakubwa hawa wa mambo haya hawaoni. Siku moja tunaomba wapande matatu wapate kujua dhiki.

Jambo lingine ambalo ningependa Waziri asikie ni swala la kuajiri watu wa Pwani katika Wizara ya Kawi. Huu ni ukweli na usemwe, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Mwatonea sana. Mwaandikana kazi wenyewe kwa wenyewe tu kila siku. Kwani hiyo KPLC ni yenu peke yenu? Ahh! Sisi pia ni Wakenya! Hili ni jambo ambalo ni lazima litazamwe. Kila siku, shirika la KPLC likiwa na nafasi za kazi, mnaandikana wenyewe kwa wenyewe tu. Hapana! Hebu geukeni na mtutazame na sisi pia. Tunataka "quota system" huko pia. Mbona mmezidi sana hivi, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda? Tunapiga kura hapa Bungeni pamoja lakini kukitokea nafasi za kazi, mnaandikana wenyewe kwa wenyekwe. Haya ni mambo gani? Mambo haya yamezidi. Hata leo pia nitaunga mkono Mswada huu lakini wakati wa kusaidiana ukifika, inakuwa ni wenyewe kwa wenyewe tu! Haya ni mambo gani? Kila mwaka, tunapitisha mambo haya haya na kusema maneno haya haya. Lazima na sisi pia tujulikane. Tazama wale maofisa pale ambao wamevaa masuti kutoka mwanzo hadi mwisho, unioneshe ikiwa kuna hata mmoja anayetoka sehemu ya pwani. Hakuna hata mmoja.

Hili ni jambo ambalo namuomba hata Waziri mwenyewe alitazame. Hata sisi ni Wakenya jamani? Kwani Kenya hii ni huko kwenu peke yenu? Hayo ndiyo maneno ambayo ni ya msingi, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda. Pia sisi tuna vijana ambao wamehitimu na wanataka hizo kazi. Lakini kila tunapofikiwa, tunaambiwa IMF imesema watu wapunguzwe. Lakini watu wa sehemu zingine wanaandikwa. Wakifikiwa watu wa Pwani, Kwale na Matuga, IMF inasema wapunguzwe. Kwa vile Matuga kunajulikana kwa sababu ya majini, tutawapeleka kule.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono.

Mr. Ogeka: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. In the actual sense, I am the official respondent to the Motion tabled on the Ministry of Energy. The energy sector is a crucial area for our development. It is a determinant in terms of cost and, by all standards, it deserves to be supported, and even to be given a little much more, especially if we want to industrialise our means of production.

Nevertheless, in responding to the entire issue, it will be very important to be able to spell to the common man, the reason why we should vote the public funds to the tune of K£132 million to be spent in this Ministry. Unless it is justified, I do not think we shall be fairly judged for having decided to give this money to the Ministry to operate.

First and foremost, currently, Kenya is on the cross-roads in the energy sector. There is no need to hide. The PS in this Ministry has been more of a lonely voice in the jungle, particularly, in the petroleum sector. Are we just liberalising for the sake of it? What has been the benefit of the common man in the liberalisation of the petroleum sector? What is the dividend? What reward? What better service and what cost-saving has he got out of the liberalisation?

I think the Minister gave a half-baked speech in presenting this noble need of the Ministry. I think it is very, very important to inform the masses in this country what strategic measures the Ministry is adopting to overcome the exploitation by the monopolies. Currently, the common Kenyan is at the mercy of the petroleum dealers. We are the

country which sells petroleum products the highest. Currently, whether you like it or not, super petrol is almost reaching Kshs40 per litre. Although 50 per cent of that money goes into the Government taxes, I think something must be done very crucially, if we want to reverse the cost of living. Everything is pegged on the energy sector. We have left the petroleum dealers very free in the importation of white petrol. At least, are we taking the dictatorship demand of the foreigners? Can we not prioritise areas of liberalisation? The energy sector poses a lot of questions, particularly, in the petroleum sector. With regard to hydro-electric power, we have had over 30 years of Independence and I believe that if our priorities were put right, we would be self-sufficient on hydro-electric power. Currently, our production resources are producing under-capacity. I will give you an example of the very area where I come from. In the sugar sector, there is a lot of rationing. The rationing interferes heavily with the utilisation of the industrial capacity, to an average, to give at least, the required product to the country. In all the various sectors, not only are we insufficient on hydro-electric power, but what used to be the noble pride of a well-managed institution, has turned to be a fairly doubted area of management. That is the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC). The chief of the institution is here and the Ministry concerned is here. Both the billing and reconnection services, and any kind of services within KPLC have become a laughing stock. It was a very reputable organisation. Are we advancing or retreating? But we are paying through the nose for a no worthy service. Ten years ago, it was a great pride. We take the challenge and the taxpayer is watching. Are they paying money for a cause that meets their need?

Let us go specifically into the critical area of rural industrialisation. That is the rural electrification programme. Actually, I believe that the weakness of the Kenyan leaders is the mis-use of their positions. What is the clear policy of rural electrification? Are we going to push the cart the same way we create districts, which are created to suit our political demands? This cannot correspond to an important area like rural electrification. It is not going to be a mere simple political reward for having favoured me. In any case, none favours the other. What we consume and do are our rights. But I think we are going to strangle this country very soon, if we have no plans. Once again, I wish to say that failing to plan is planning to fail. Creating institutions that are incapable of accomplishing their successful targets is like imprisoning yourself, and taking the wananchi for a ride.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the role of energy is great. We talk of unemployment in Kenya. What key industries will open the area for employment other than the energy sector? Indeed, when we are talking about energy sector, the Minister has in no uncertain terms failed in his duty of confirming to this House how soon river Miriu Hydro-electric power which was explored right back in 1980--- In 1980, speaking today as hon. Member of Parliament, I was still in the Public Service. It had been explored, but we are still depending on hydro-electric power generated from our neighbouring country while our natural resources are going untapped.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister should tell the taxpayers who are looking at us in this august House, who are seeing how much we are talking about their money, how much they stand to gain in this crucial sector, and this does not need to be politicised. I think the weakness in Kenya is that are certain basic needs which must now be beyond the political hand-outs because we are simply begging for a party support or for a vote. Vote or no vote, life will have to continue and on the basis of continuity of life, what are the priorities that will benefit the ordinary man?

All in all, by early 1981/82, a very noble discussion in the energy sector came into being, that is, renewable sources of energy. One would ask, and with technical staff around, how far did Kenya go about it? A big exhibition around Kenyatta International Conference Centre--- It was a laughing stock and it all went. Are we serious? Do we have some kind of secretariat for continuity to explore the alternative sources? Or are we only mad during the crisis and, as soon as it is over, we are quick in forgetting and only come up when crisis comes up? It is important to look for the alternative sources of energy. This House cannot be convinced that we are doing much being satisfied with what we are doing today. The role of a competent manager is to manage tomorrow's events. Today's events were the making of yesterdays manager. What are we going to handover, only dishing today's collection? Are we giving a strategy for what may safeguard the interest of a taxpayer in the energy sector and in the industrialisation process?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with these few remarks, I wish to support, but challenge the Minister that the sky is the limit and he should be more resourceful and control the sources of energy, including the price of the petroleum products. Thank you.

Mr. Sankori: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me take this opportunity to thank the Minister for Energy for the well precise speech he made when presenting the budget of his Ministry. May I also, at the same time, support my friend hon. Ogeka for actually congratulating the Permanent Secretary for bringing the awareness to the community in connection with oil prices in the country. I wish, if all the officers who are in that industry can really tell the public the truth. May I also take this opportunity to thank the Managing Director of Kenya Power and Lighting Company for his able leadership in the company.

All in all, in every field, there are always ups and downs and due to the development of this nation, the power sector also needs to be improved like any other sector. It is true that Turkwel Gorge was actually one of the modern

power projects the country has ever undertaken. Since the construction of Turkwel Gorge, due to the donors conditionality, we have never had any other time in the last four or five years undertaken any project that can actually meet the demand of the local population that is increasing.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have talked a lot about rural electrification programme. I am not surprised when I see some people opposing the rural electrification programme or opposing the budget for this Ministry. This is because some of them do not visit their rural homes. So, they do not know the problems experienced by people in the rural areas. Some have actually been with lights since they were born. So, when we talk of rural electrification, they do not know what exactly we are talking about. They have never used candles.

The Ministry has asked this House to approve over K£143 million of which over K£132 is for development. I am of the opinion that this K£132 million that the Ministry is requesting will assist in the Rural Electrification Programme. This is because it is them who pay these taxes and if we want money, we must invest where there are people.

When we talk of other sources of energy, I would say the bio-gas, solar and the wind, the Ministry has not taken a lot of initiative to see to it that where they cannot get hydro-electricity they will go on supplying either solar, bio-gas or wind power. They have left this to the private sector which does not reach the interior.

The increase of the Ministry's budget was due because of donors withholding their funds. So, we must meet our own budget and that is why we are finding that our budget has increased substantially.

May I also ask the Ministry to release funds to the KPLC so that they can do their job. Here, we are always fighting KPLC, but, unfortunately, sometimes they do not get the money from the Ministry, and we do not know why this Ministry is there, if it is not supplying the required energy. So, as hon. Juma Boy said, we are expecting to see a lot of improvement from the Minister for Energy as far as Rural Electrification Programme is concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I am actually here trying to oppose some of the sentiments expressed by some of the Opposition Members of Parliament. One, said that power is used as a political tool. That is not true, but even if it was going to be used as a political tool, when you come to power, use it also.

The Kenya Government actually requires over 40 megawatts every year, if we are to satisfy our power supply. We are only getting about 30 megawatts from Uganda as the hon. Minister said. To get that one, we must always produce a lot of money. Where are we going to get the money, if hon. Raila is opposing the release of these funds to the Ministry?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has said that they are going to undertake the construction of five power plants such as Sondu-Miriu, Kipevu and Ol-Karia III, which would probably give the country, if it is done on time, over 300 megawatts. That is a lot of power. I am sure we do not expect to get this one within one year. We have also got the other sources of energy, that is wood fuel. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Energy is an enemy of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, because, if we do not supply enough energy, definitely, the people are going to cut down trees, burn charcoal and we are going to experience a lot of desertification in this country. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to request the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources to see to it that forests are not used to subsidize electricity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a lot of things have been said about an industry that supplies gas in Mombasa, but up to now, we have not seen anything much that line. With regards to the petroleum products, it is unfortunate that the Ministry cannot control the foreign oil companies that are actually controlling the petroleum sector.

I wish to take this opportunity to ask the Minister to bring to this House a Bill, so that we will give him powers, if there are not enough powers in the present Act, to see to it that he will have control over these foreign oil companies, so that they can stop milking our economy.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, the hon. Kamotho talked about schools. Surely, you would find that in the rural areas students cannot study, because they do not have power either in their schools or in their rural homes. Even if we cannot supply electricity in the rural areas, why can we not supply electricity to schools? You would find a power-line just passing over a school and it would probably cost about Kshs30,000 to Kshs40,000 to get a transformer.

I am sure Mr. Gichuru can donate several transformers to schools where electricity line is passing nearby. This would go a long way to help our poor children in the rural areas who have difficulties in learning. That is why we find that in most of the schools in the rural areas children fail not because they want to fail, but they fail because they do not have a good learning atmosphere, and as we said, power is the engine of the nation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not trying to praise the Managing Director of Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC), but hon. Mbela said that 10 years ago KPLC was a very good company. I hope he was still the same Managing Director 10 years ago. I wish to tell him now to pull up the socks and make sure that he restores the past glory of KPLC despite the fact that we have now a bigger company. But I hope he is capable of re-organising the KPLC so that he can restore the past glory of KPLC.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Mwaura: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this important Motion.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, earlier on, we had discussed the question of unemployment in this country, and as other speakers have said, the informal sector of this country which takes a large number of our unemployed people in the rural areas, the youths could do much better if electrification in the rural areas was implemented with a high speed, because it would help these people in the informal sector to engage in areas of industry that can be undertaken there. For example, like the question of fisheries, shoe-making and timber. All these areas would help absorb a lot of youths in the rural areas.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, industrialisation of this country cannot be equally undertaken without energy being spread equally. We have talked about the question of liberalisation of the power sector and I would urge that Kenyan entrepreneurs must also be made part of the players of electrification in this country. We invite investors because this is a very major area of our economy and we think that it would be very good of Kenyans for them to be equally partners in this area.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other area that the Minister talked about when he moved his Vote which is equally very important is the question and initiative that the KPLC has taken to ensure that the coffee factories in our areas would also benefit from this budget. This country is an agricultural country, coffee and other farming areas in our country are the backbone of our economy. The area where I come from, which is a coffee-growing area, coffee productivity, as the earlier speaker, the Minister of Education said, would, indeed, increase if the coffee factories were electrified. It would enable them to utilise and produce more coffee.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other thing that we need to look into is the question of Kenya's dependency on power from our neighbour. We must as a long-term development of our energy sector, reduce this dependency from Uganda, because as you know recently, and particularly this week, we have seen Uganda trying to reduce their requirements of Kenya milk. You can never tell, because several times we have had problems with our neighbour because of our political position which can also make them feel that they can cut our use of their energy. It is, therefore, very important that our energy development be hastened so as to reduce our dependence on Uganda's energy.

The other area which I think also is equally very important is the question of exploration of oil in this country which has been undertaken over many years and yet, this country has not been able to find oil. We must be able to involve Kenyans so that we can be able to know whether this country has oil or not. If a country like Sudan can be able to produce oil in their own country while we are in the same zone, it is not feasible that Kenya itself cannot be able to produce oil after using a lot of money over many years on oil exploration. This is an area where we really must use our scientists in order to be able to know how far we can get oil in our country.

The other area, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, which is equally very important and an area that would help our rural areas is the question of solar and wind energy. This is an area which, I think, can help the rural areas. If more solar energy is generated, it will go a long way towards reducing the energy crisis in our rural areas, and I think this is an area where the Ministry must really put more effort to see what can be done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other saddening issue is one of vandalism that we witness on electrical equipment. Sometimes as you travel along Nairobi streets, you notice a lot of vandalism on power gadgets. I think, the Ministry must find a way of reducing vandalism of electrical gadgets. If we take a study for example, from a country like South Africa, how they have done their electrification, we should be able to reduce vandalism because it has cost this country a lot of money.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, another area where other speakers have also raised concern, is the area of giving power. Power cost in this country has become so enormous and it will be desirable if the Government can find a way of sharing costs with consumers. Because the power cost in this country has become un-affordable. Despite the fact that the Kenya Power and Lighting Company has made a lot of effort to increase the energy in this country, the price of energy itself has become prohibitive. Transformers cannot be afforded by schools in the rural areas. Because, to get a transformer, is very prohibitive. The budget of the Ministry, like other speakers have said, has increased tremendously. We want to see electrification particularly the rural areas being increased, because that is where most of our people live.

With horticultural development, it would be desirable that Kenya Power and Lighting Company makes it affordable for people who would like to construct cooling systems in the rural areas where they are producing horticultural products. This way, they will be able to produce high quality horticultural products in this country. Because, with the entry of South Africa into the horticulture market, we need people to produce the best quality horticultural products that can be competitive with other horticultural products in the world.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other area which is equally important is the question of helping hospitals to have constant supply of electricity because, power failures and rationing that we see today can be very detrimental to our health institutions. In most cases, surgery on sick people has to be carried out.

With these few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Kaino): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, for this opportunity you have given me to contribute to this very important Motion.

Energy is everything and, I wish to thank the Members especially hon. Mwaura from the other side for his contribution which has been very important. I was listening to him and I have found a lot of insight in his contribution.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention how my constituents and Marakwets in general, view the Ministry of Energy. The only thing which we know from this Ministry is Kenya Power and Lighting Company. There is a power line which comes from Cheptongei to Kapsowar, passing through a forest, while there is another area where the line passes to supply power to individuals and schools in those areas. That one was done about five years ago, but in the centre itself which is the District headquarters there is no electricity. From Trans-Nzoia to Cherangany, it also passes through the forest while there are some routes. I would say, there are some routes which would be more comfortable for the technicians instead of passing through the forests or through the rough road to supply energy to the people.

I would like to request the Ministry to consider re-routing the line from Cherangany so that it can supply power to Marakwets who really desire to have electricity. I would also like to ask the Ministry to see to it that at least every district headquarters in the Republic gets power supply. This will induce some people who may be having money, to start small scale cottage industries. By doing so, Kenyans who lack employment, may be employed there, and therefore, reducing the immigration of youths or rural folk to the urban areas.

Unemployment is a very serious issue in this country and youths are flocking to towns. When they get to towns, some of them even go without food during the day. They end up resorting to violence, thuggery and other vices. So, by starting industries in the rural areas, it will stop these people from coming to the urban areas. So, supplying electricity to the rural areas, especially district headquarters will encourage people to start rural agricultural based industries and youths can be employed in those areas, thus reducing immigration to the urban areas.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not agree with what hon. Raila has just said, that wherever KANU goes for campaigns, they promise people electricity. This is not true. Everywhere and in most of these towns, especially the "Opposition zones", have got power. When you come to an area like mine, we are in problems. We have no electricity in most parts of my area. Even the important towns do not have electricity. Even the person who said this, while driving they use energy, that is, oil. And, that oil--

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to mislead the House, that, hon. Raila was wrong in saying that KANU is using power as a political tool and yet for example, they had put posts in Kipipiri before the by-election, and after the by-election, they carried them away? They also had posts in Machakos Town and they carried them away. They had posts in South Nyanza and carried them away. Is he therefore in order, to mislead the House?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Dr. Lwali-Oyondi, I do not think that is a point of order. Proceed!

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Kaino): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it will take us sometime to believe what the Opposition Members say, because what a few of them say is very untrue and unreliable. As per what the hon. Member is saying, I would like to tell him that, the posts are still there, the team is still there and Kshs10 million is already there.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Order, hon. Mulusya. He has only ten minutes and I am going to give you ten minutes and it is not fair. He may be expressing his own opinion. You wait until you catch my eye and I will give you time and you will say exactly what you think should be said. Proceed Mr. Kaino.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Settlement (Mr. Kaino): On Aror Hydro-electric power, I would like to request the Ministry of Energy to reconsider what they had started in Kerio Valley. There was a study by Kerio Valley Development Authority on Aror Hydro-electric power which could generate about 70 Mega Watts. The study cost a lot of money and I would request the Ministry to look into it and look for donors so that we cannot depend on other countries like Uganda. The 70 Mega Watts which can be obtained from Aror Hydro-electric power could assist

a lot. The study has already been completed, the books are there. It is only a question of looking for finances for that project. I would like to request the Ministry to be very serious indeed and get these 70 Mega Watts in Kerio Valley so that they can have additional power supply.

On development, we would like to urge the Ministry to be very serious when they are disseminating information regarding oil. Kenyans are very eager to know whether we have oil deposits in this country. They should come out with very concrete facts other than dilly dallying. We would like the Ministry to be very clear whether there is oil or not. If there is no oil there is no harm in continuing to search for it. We shall search for oil until we get it in this land. Oil deposits are found in our neighbouring countries. Why can we not have oil deposits in this country. There is likelihood of oil deposits being in this country and we want the Ministry to be very serious. They should use the money which is being voted for them for studies on oil and tell kenyans about the status of oil in this country.

I would also urge the Ministry to consider the urban areas where people have been killed in the streets because there are no lights. I know that it is the local authorities who are supposed to do this but the Ministry must see to it that lighting has been put in all the dark areas in urban areas.

I would like to congratulate the PS in that Ministry for the stand he took during the oil increase saga. That did show a nationalistic way of dealing with things because most of those in the oil business are foreigners and they want to loot a lot of money from this country at the expense of our people. By doing so, the Ministry must be very serious and come up with very strong policies and by-laws which can govern this trade. I know that we are in the era of liberalisation but there is a way of controlling it. The Ministry must look for ways on how to protect our local consumers from exploitation.

With those few remarks, I would like to support this Vote.

Mr. Mulusya: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute on this Vote. This is a Ministry which has a very vital role to play in this country but unfortunately, it is one of those Ministries which are highly unproductive. For the last few years, there has been very little input on the production of additional power because, for the few projects which the Ministry has got into, they have been highly inflated to the extent that the donor community has had to think twice on whether they are going to continue funding hydro-electric projects in this country. The Turkwel project is a case in point. The money that was spent compared to the output we are getting from that project, would have been enough for four similar projects. The immediate designs of this projects are not done by our local consultants. We are not giving local Kenyans the chance to design these projects. They are being given to us by the prospective investors from abroad. After we have accepted their conditions, they eventually fund these projects. We are losing a lot of foreign exchange because our professionals have not been given a chance to go around the world to shop for comparative costs for machinery which are used. We cannot sit here and expect that those who have interests in investing in our country are going to give us the best. This is where we are going wrong. This is a highly technical area and we must be able to have a well trained personnel in this country who should be able to examine the professionals we are getting from those outside countries.

As we sit here, there are those people whose interests are the new projects in the Ministry of Energy. When the late John Kyalo was alive and he was the Minister for Energy, there was a big question mark as to who, between him and his predecessor, was running the Ministry. Even now, that question still lingers not only in the minds of those who are working in that Ministry, but also other Kenyans. There has been a lot of interest by particular individuals in the management of affairs of the Ministry of Energy. When it came to the design and the implementation of Oil Pipeline from Mombasa to Western Kenya, there were people who benefitted so much from that project that they still feel that if they are not in that Ministry, heaven has come slightly lower than where it is and they are wondering when God is going to expand the gap between heaven and the earth.

By this year, every town in this country should be having electricity. But the urban areas in KANU zones have electricity. They are very few, because the money which should have been used in generating electricity to serve all these areas, has only gone to one particular area. Even the Ministry itself has no control over it.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are having very serious cases which we are witnessing. Today, the Ministry of Energy does not know how much, in terms of foreign loans, we owe the foreign donors. They do not even know. Even the Treasury does not know how much money we have borrowed for power generation. If you ask institutions like Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority (TARDA) and Kerio Valley Development Authority (KVDA), they do not know the magnitude of the loans which they borrowed. They do not know how they have paid; they do not know how much is outstanding.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, a problem has been created where those Authorities which are supposed to be managing the generation of electricity in this country--- They generate the electricity and sell it to Kenya Power and Lighting Company which does not pay them. Why? It is because, some particular individuals upon their removal from that Ministry, said "No, because I have no control over TARDA and KVDA, let this money go to Kenya Power

and Lighting Company who will be able to pay directly to the donors, not even through the Ministry of Energy."

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been very difficult to reconcile the accounts between the Kenya Power and Lighting Company, TARDA and Turkwell.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Mr. Mulusya, are you sure you are not contravening some of the Standing Orders because you must be using the information you have received through one of the Committees? Are you not anticipating a debate?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not anticipating a debate. The report of the Public Investments Committee (PAC) has already been tabled. It has already been moved. What we are saying is that there is a very big quagmire deliberately created so that Kenyans are unable to know how much we owe the foreign donors in terms of the liquidity of the money we have borrowed to generate electricity. And this is why, since 1992, there has been a lot of reluctance by the donor community to fund any electric generation project in this country. Why? This is because they do not trust those who are in charge of the Ministry presently.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we had a Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy who was retired at the age of 54. He was later given a job in the National Oil Corporation of Kenya and he was recalled to the Ministry. He is now on contract. Ask yourself why?

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Let me start off by stating that energy is life and I am saying this because a lot of what goes on in life has to do with energy. That being the case, we do need to ensure that the best is done when it comes to managing all that has to do with our supply of energy.

Now, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are now in the computer age and in this age life without electricity is unthinkable. It does show that we will have to do something to ensure that the supply of energy is going to be adequate to all the consumers both present and potential. Potential because again a lot of our industrialisation is going to be determined by whether or not we have enough in terms of electric supply. The situation as of today, leaves a great deal to be desired because for one, this country is becoming notorious for the rationing of electricity. There is nothing to be gained in rationing electricity. It does show that there is a serious shortfall; there is inadequacy in the supply of the commodity and as a result many of our potential investors are forced to look elsewhere because no investor is going to venture into a situation where the supply of just about the most important commodity is not guaranteed.

So, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the fact that this country is today rationing electricity, in itself proves that the planning aspect or the planning function of both the Ministry of Energy and the Government itself is suspect or leaves so much to be desired. The drought conditions that have been given as the reasons for rationing are occurrences that are known to this country. Therefore, the question of saying that we have to ration because there is drought leaves a great deal to be desired because if we plan properly, I am sure something should have been done to take care of that kind of situation. Why am I saying this? I am saying this because in this country we have so many rivers most of which have never been harnessed and tapped for electric supply.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Western Kenya is teeming with rivers. One wonders whether are we waiting for Jesus Christ to come back before the Ministry of Energy and Kenya Power and Lighting Limited wake up and harness the rivers pouring water into Lake Victoria. Most of those rivers come from high altitude areas and can somehow be harnessed at one stage for electric generation. Why has this not been done all these years? Why does the water continue to flow unutilized? Chile is a country that is relatively dry, the level of rainfall there is almost negligible but they have rivers and each of those rivers are utilised to the fullest before water is allowed to drain into the ocean. Now, in Kenya, we would rather sit by and look on as water goes into Lake Victoria and beyond. We supply water to Sudan and Egypt who make the fullest use of it when here in Kenya, as the suppliers, we are making no use of it at all.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is as a result of an oversight on the part of both the Ministry of Energy and the Kenya Power and Lighting Company. I also want to take issue with the Kenya Power and Lighting Company because very many of the consumers are today being inconvenienced. Here in Nairobi many of the domestic consumers have had their houses fitted with commercial meters in order for them to pay higher rates of electricity. This is blackmail. That must be addressed. I am saying it here because we had an occasion not long ago when we raised this question on the Floor of this House and the Minister responsible answered, that part of the problem had to do with the computers at the company in that the computers were giving wrong bills. Now, how long will the consumers be exposed to this kind of shortfall or failure on the part of the company in order to be able to address the question? I am saying this because we have been trying for almost six months now, but nothing has been done. In matters like these, we would like to see consumers not being taken for granted.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to say something about the cost of electricity. As of now, the cost of electricity is too high and is not justified. I think the high cost has something to do with bad planning, which results in the company making much less money than it would do with good planning. With proper planning and rational approach to project implementation, I am sure that a lot more electricity consumers could be brought into

the consumption net thereby reducing the cost of supplying electricity. As of now, the cost of electricity is totally unjustified, and is being raised every so often. We would like to see the introduction of legislation to control the pricing of electricity. This is because this is an essential commodity. A period of five years or so should elapse before an increase in the price of electricity can be granted. I think in the last two years we have had about three or four increases in the price of electricity which, to me, are totally unjustified.

I also want to say something about the Sondu Miriu Hydro-Electric Project. I am glad that this time round, something seems to have been provided for the implementation of this particular project. As I have already mentioned in my contribution, something should be done to, at least, have this project implemented in the shortest time possible. This is because it will help spread the benefits of electrification in that part of the country. It has been sad that all this time we have had to rely on electricity from elsewhere when we have rivers that can be tapped for electricity generation. We would like to see this project implemented, so that other projects like irrigation schemes can also be started.

I think part of our problem in this country has something to do with politics. Too many of our projects are linked to political interests, and Turkwell Hydro-Electric Plant has been cited here. I do concur with those who have spoken before me and have, indeed, pointed out that time has come for us to leave politics out when it comes to infrastructural projects, such as electricity generation and distribution. I think politics is responsible for the current situation where demand for electricity far outstrips the supply. Had consideration not been given to politics, projects like the Turkwell one, which has cost this country a fortune, would not have been implemented, and so the country would not have lost the colossal sum of money that it lost. So, I call upon this House to ensure that steps are taken to remove politics from projects like those in the field of power.

A major infrastructural development project like power generation will, of necessity, have to rely on foreign donors for funding. We are time and again told that part of our problem comes from Opposition members because they tell the donors not to be forthcoming with aid for the country. That is not the case. On the contrary, our problem arises from inefficiency in the management of projects. I would, therefore, urge that when it comes to high cost projects politics should be left out of them. Let professionalism, and nothing else but professionalism, dictate what happens.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ndzai: Ahsante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ili nami niunge mkono Voti hii. Tunaishukuru sana Wizara hii kwa juhudi zake. Maongozi ya KANU ni kwamba stima ni muhimu sana na Serikali itaitoa kwa wananchi wote wa Kenya. Kupatikana kwa stima pia kunausaidia uchumi wa Kenya. Serikali ina miradi kadhaa wa kadhaa, baadhi yake ikiwa kule Magarini. Ni nia ya Serikali kuendelea kuisambaza miradi kote nchini. Pia ni nia ya Serikali kumtoa mwananchi wa kawaida bei nafuu kwa matumizi ya stima.

Kulingana na maongozi ya KANU, kawi itakpatikana kwa njia tofauti tofauti. Kwa mfano miali ya jua, upepo, misitu, kuni na makaa vinaweza kutupatia kawi. Ingawa watu wa mashambani wanaweza kutumia kuni au makaa, wanapofanya hivyo wanakamatwa na maofisa wa misitu. Pengine Wizara za Kawi na pia ile ya Mazingira na Mali ya Asili zingekutana na kukubaliana kuhusu matumizi ya kuni na makaa. Hii ni kwa sababu si kila mtu anayeweza kutumia stima kwa sababu bei yake. Naomba watu wa Magarini, kwa kuwa wao pia ni Wakenya, pia wapewe stima.

Tunashukuru kwa sababu sehemu fulani za Magarini zimepewa stima. Lakini sehemu hizi zile zenye viwanda vya chumvi peke yake. Wananchi wa kawaida pia wangepewa stima. Serikali imekuwa ikisema kwamba inatafuta pesa, lakini hapa sasa tunaidhinisha matumizi ya pesa. Pesa hizi zingetumiwa kuwapa watu wa Magarini stima. Sehemu ya Magarini ikipewa stima itapata maendeleo kwa sababu wenye rasilmali wataanzisha viwanda huko.

Tunajua kwamba bila ya stima ni vigumu kwa mtu yeyote kuanzisha kiwanda huko Magarini. Naiomba Serikali ipeleke stima kule Magarini ili kuwezesha kuanzishwa kwa viwanda. Pia stima itawawezesha watu kuvuta maji had nymbani mwao. Kitakuwa kitu cha manufaa kama hawa watu wa kawaida ikiwa wanaweza kupatiwa nafasi ya kutumia nguvu ya umeme katika majumba yao kwa sababu watu hawa wengi wa Magarini hawajapatiwa nafasi ya kutumia hizi nguvu za umeme. Kwa hivyo, wakati nguvu za umeme zitakapofika huko, watu wa kawaida wataweza kuzitumia ili waweze kufanya maendeleo zaidi ya vile ilivyo sasa.

Kule Magarini, watu wengi wanafanya kazi katika viwanda vidogo vidogo ambavyo havitumii moto, kama workshops na watu wengine wangependa kutumia nguvu hizo kuhifadhi samaki kwa fridges ili zisiharibike haraka. Wengine ambao ni watu wa biashara wangetaka kutumia hizo nguvu kwa biashara zao. Kwa hivyo, sasa tumekamilisha miaka 33 ya Uhuru na watu wa Magarini hawajafaidika kutoka na nguvu za umeme, isipokuwa wachache tu ambao wana viwanda kule vya chumvi. Tungeomba hii Wizara, watu wanamwomba Waziri mwenyewe aende kule aonekane na atuambie kwamba ni kitu gani angesaidia. Asiende kule alipata kura peke yake. Waziri ana kofia mbili. Kofia ya kwanza ni ya kuchaguliwa na watu wake na ya pili ni ya kupewa na Serikali. Mara nyingi, Mawaziri wanatumia kofia ile ya ubunge peke yake, na ile ya kupewa na Serikali hawaitumii.

Tungeomba Waziri wa Kawi atembelee Magarini na akifika huko hatakosa cha kutoa, badala ya kwenda sehemu alipopata kura peke yake. Anatumia kofia moja peke yake. Kwa hivyo, tunaunga mkona Wizara hii na ni madhumuni yetu kwamba kazi hii itafanyika hata kule Mikuni ambapo pia ni Magarini kwa sababu huko nako ni sehemu ya Kenya.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Ahsante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi hii ili na mimi pia niongee machache juu ya umeme. Kwanza, ningependa kusema kitu kimoja: Wananchi wamechoka, tena sana, kwa sababu ya kukatwa kwa umeme kila siku. Viwanda vingine karibu vianguke. Mtu ametayarisha vyakula, anajitayarisha kuvipika--- Kwa mfano, wale wanaotengeneza uji huko Nakuru, wafanyakazi wa Nakuru Fibres wameweka vyombo vyao wanapika vitu, umeme unapotea na inawabidi kumwaga hiyo yote. Hii lazima ikomeshwe. Suluhisho la kuokomesha shida hii ni hili: Kama KPLC haina njia ya kutoa umeme wa kutosha, waende Uganda na wasikilizane na Uganda. Huko kuna hydro-electricity nzuri sana kutokana na nguvu za maji kutoka Lake Victoria, halafu wawalipe vile watakavyosikilizana. Hizi 30 Mgw. tunazopata kutoka Uganda kwa sasa hazitoshi. Waongeze hata ziwe 60 Mgw. kama inawezakana. Sijui ni kwa nini hizi nguvu za umeme ambazo zinatoka Uganda huja usiku. Zamani tuliambiwa kwamba Uganda hata hawahitaji hiyo umeme. Kama hii ni kweli, basi tununue umeme kutoka huko, tusiwe na kiburi. Ukiwa na kiburi utajidhuru mwenyewe. Tukifanya hivyo viwanda vyetu vitaendelea na watoto wetu wataajiriwa kazi na wataendelea vizuri, hata kuliko ile wanatajaria kupata kutokana na hii Youth Development Fund (YDF) ambao haina maana. Hizi pesa za YDF zitawasaidia watu namna gani kama hatuna viwanda?

Haya mambo ya kukata umeme yanaharibu kitu kingine: Masomo ya watoto. Watoto hawapati masomo. Wakati wanaposoma, umeme unakatika. Jambo la tatu ni kwamba tunataka umeme pia katika sehemu za mashambani. Tunasema kwamba tunataka umeme katika sehemu za mashambani lakini hata katika sehemu za mijini, hakuna stima. Nilipokuwa nikitoka South Africa mwezi jana, nilifika Mombasa na hakukuwa na stima. Nakuru pia iko hivyo. Watu wengi wanavifaa vya stima katika nyumba vyao lakini hawajawekewa hiyo stima.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, jambo la kukata umeme linafaa kukomeshwa. Tukiwa na umeme tunaweza hata kuutumia kuwaelemisha watoto wetu katika shule. Tunaweza hata kutumia televisheni kuwaelemisha wanafunzi wetu. Tukiwa na umeme katika shule zetu, tunaweza kuwa na mwalimu mmoja aliye na ujuzi sana katika Shirika la Utangazaji la Kenya ambaye anaweza kuwaelemisha wanafunzi kupitia televisheni. Kwa ufupi, njia hii inaweza kupunguza gharama ya elimu.

Zile pesa ambazo zinapatikana kutokana na umeme zinafaa kutumiwa vizuri. Hatutaki hawa watu kusukumwa na wananchi kwa njia ya kutozwa pesa za Harambee. Pesa za Harambee zinawezaje kutoka kwa kampuni kama hii? Wananchi wanafahamu kwamba Harambee nyingi zinatolewa na kampuni ya stima. Inawezaji kutoa Harambee na sisi tunapiga kelele juu ya transformers? Wanasiasa waache hii kampuni ifanye kazi yake. Wasitoe pesa kutoka huko ili kujidai kwamba wanatoa pesa nyingi katika mikutano ya Harambee. Kenya inajulikana kwamba haina pesa nyingi. Mkenya mmoja hawezi kuwa ana mshahara mkubwa ambao unamwezesha kutoa mamilioni ya pesa katika mikutano ya Harambee. Haya mamilioni huchukuliwa kutoka mahali fulani. Watu wa shirika la stima wasije wakawa ndio wenye kutoa hizi pesa.

Kitu kingine ambacho ningependa kuzungumzia ni juu ya geothermal plant. Tuko na geothermal Plant huko Olkaria ambayo inaendelea na tunaishukuru kampuni ya stima kwa jambo hili. Kwa upande wa Magadi kuna hot water springs. Huko upande wa Bogoria pia tuna hot water springs. Waangalie kama inawezekana kupata umeme kutoka hapa hata kama ni kidogo. Pia tusije tu tukajishughulisha na falls zile kubwa. Nchi hii ina sehemu nyingi ambazo zina falls, kama vile Yala Falls ambayo ina maji kutoka Januari hadi Desemba miaka nenda miaka rudi. Tutengeneze dam na kupata umeme kutoka hapo ambao utasaidia Yala Township na sehemu za Siaya. Kwa njia hii, ile stima ambayo ingepelekwa pale ipelekwa pahali pengine. Kuna sehemu nyingine katika Mkoa wa Magharibi ambapo kuna mito mikubwa sana na tungependa hii kampuni ijaribu kupata hydro-electricity kutoka hapa.

Pia tuone kama tunaweza kutumia atomic energy. Bila umeme kuna taabu sana. Hata tunapata taabu katika barabara zetu kwa sababu taa zetu hazifanyi kazi kwa sababu stima zinapotea kila mara. Mimi ninaweza kuwapatia mfano wa fax yangu ambayo imeungua kwa sababu ya power surges. Umeme wetu hauji kwa ustadi. Mara moja unakuja kwa wingi na mara nyingine kwa uchache. Voltage inaenda juu na mara nyingine chini. Inakuja wingi na tena inakuja kidogo. Voltage inaenda juu na chini. Saa nyingine, inaenda juu juu zaidi, kama vile mnavyojua.

Kwa upande wa taa za barabara, ninafikiri kwamba KPLC wana jukumu la kuangalia hizo taa. Ikiwa ninafikiri vibaya, nirekebishwe. Taa za barabara ziliungua zamani katika miji ya Kenya. Tunaongea mambo ya kueneza stima katika maeneo ya mashambani, lakini hatuna taa za barabarani katika miji yetu. Sehemu ambazo zina stima, taa zimekwisha na bado tunataka kueneza stima mashambani. Tuko kama viazi ambavyo vilikuwa na nyama katikati. Wakati nyama inaanza kuoza na viazi vinakuwa vikubwa, sehemu ya nje inaonekana vizuri lakini katika sehemu ya ndani imeoza. Miji yetu haina stima. Wakora wanapiga watu. Katika sehemu ya Kwa Rhoda, katika mji

wa Nakuru, kuna taabu sana. Watu wanauawa na kupigwa kwa sababu taa zilizokuwa huko zimeungua na hakuna mtu anayefanya kitu chochote huko.

Kuna sehemu moja hapa Thika, karibu na Nairobi ambapo kuna mito miwili inayoitwa Thika na Chania, karibu na hoteli ya Blue Post. Kuna "Gorge" kubwa sana. Wangefunga maji tu hapo mbele ya hoteli ya Blue Post, ili "Gorge" hiyo ijae maji. Tungekuwa na stima ya kutosha kutumikia mji wote wa Thika. Stima ambayo inatumiwa huko Thika kwa sasa, ingekuja Nairobi. Haya ndiyo mambo ambayo yanafanyika huko Ulaya. Magenereta siyo makubwa kama ya "Gorge" ile ya Turkwell. Ni kidogo lakini inajaza kibaba. Hayo ndiyo ningependa wale wataalamu wa stima waangalie. Haitachukua pesa nyingi. Ikiwa hatutatumia pesa zetu vibaya kama vile zilivyotumiwa Turkwell, tutaendelea mbele.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono Hoja hii.

Mr. D.D. Mbela: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to support the Vote of the Ministry of Energy.

The Ministry of Energy is a ministry that requires an energetic Minister and I would like to assure the House that presently, the existing Minister for Energy is well reputed in matters of energy, and I can assure you that any barbs that we throw to the Minister, will be very much in the interest of this country. I am sure that this Government, which he is part of, will ensure that whatever this Government has committed itself to, will be done.

Having said that, I am tempted to say that a colleague of mine who talked a few minutes ago, seemed to have picked up the words from my own mouth, being a member of the ruling party, KANU. Whenever we have something as important as the Budget, I look at the policy of this Government. I would like to say that in our own manifesto of KANU, we have very, very specific commitments. The party has made very specific commitments on the side of energy. As a colleague of mine said earlier, this Government and this party, to which I belong, strongly support the need for the development of alternative sources of energy such as solar, wind, biogas and animal power. These are commitments that have been made by the KANU Government. If we look around the country, we will take a note that definitely something has happened over the last four years in every district as far as rural electrification programme is concern. I had a quick look at it and I found that is true. I would like to say in my own constituency where energy was not there for some years and the little we had had been concentrated mainly in the main centres like Voi, Wudanyi and Mtito-Andei, we already have power in quite a few remote places and in small schools like Makutaba has electricity and it will be commissioned very soon to cover a large area. Rural electrification programme is going on throughout the country.

I would like to support my other colleagues who have spoken on this issue of rural electrification. If electricity could be taken to schools, institutions, hospitals, dispensaries and in such other small areas in the countryside, then there will be a lot for the Ministry of Energy to be proud of in the near future.

I would like to remind the Minister that there is a commitment by the KANU Government to ensure that the country has enough energy for its proposed economic development over the next 50 years. These 50 years do require some actions from the Ministry. We are aware that a lot of planning has been going on in the four to five years and there have been plans even before the *uhuru* when we were receiving electricity from Uganda. The supply of electricity from Uganda can be pursued more with new spirit of East African Co-operation as we have a substantial line connecting us from the river Nile to Mombasa. This is an investment that passes right across my constituency and I would like the Minister to take it very seriously and let us not make any mistake and lose that power supply from Uganda. I think it goes from one end of Kenya to the other and I think it is an important infrastructure that should be maintained. We should have good relationship with Uganda and make sure that we get not only 30 megawatts, but perhaps, a bigger share of the supply so that people living as far as Mombasa can be guaranteed of electricity.

There are several areas of energy that have been mentioned by my colleagues, among them hydro-power, petroleum fuel which is becoming a serious environmental hazard. I think it is important that the Ministry does not look at supply part of it, but also at the waste part of all energy supplies. Environment is such an important dimension and unless we start taking care of it at present we might find ourselves having to spend vast sums of money just to try to clean up a place like Nairobi. Nairobi is polluted and some of us who are weak find ourselves affected by this pollution. I do not know what will happen in another 5 to 10 years when Kenya becomes an industrialised country. I would like the Ministry to start thinking seriously about the exhausted side of energy projects.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have one dimension in energy which is animal energy, which I am aware that a lot of activities are going on. But there is manpower energy where issues like the bicycles, quite often I speak about this, but somehow it ends up in the air. But I would like the Minister to look at this dimension. Agro-forestry has been mentioned in our party's manifesto. The other issue is that we must also find other sources of energy. Even in case of human energy where bicycles are concerned, if we had a bicycle plant in Busia or Voi which could be producing a million bicycles, perhaps we would cut down on the number of the matatus and vehicles that are completely polluting our environment and we could spend much less.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the cost of electricity has been mentioned by several of my colleagues, and I would like to appeal to the Minister to spread this item specifically to institutions like hospitals, schools and even in private homes. There are many homes for the poor that we are coming up now, in the areas where we have Jua-Kali artisans. We are trying to raise funds to bring up our children under the National Youth Development Programme to venture into this Jua-Kali Sector. But if they are still also going to find very expensive bills at the end of the day, then all the money that we are trying to raise for them without the supply of electricity, they will have nothing to produce. I would like to appeal to the Minister to make special efforts to have someone to look at the costing of these various areas instead of spending so much money. We would like to spend the money and keep it in those areas. Jua-Kali sheds should be given very, very special attention, including hospitals, schools and other private homes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wanted to mention parts of Mombasa Road which covers about 200 kilometres from Mombasa Road where you find Mackinnon Road, Maungu and Mtito Andei, all linked together. I would like to appeal to the Minister to have a look at that section because it is the only place in Kenya where small towns do not have electricity. We are lucky now we have electricity in Maungu, but I would like it to be extended to Voi and a few other places along that portion of Mombasa Road which is in Voi Constituency. I would like the Minister to take that one into account.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are other areas in the energy sector, like biogas and wind energy and others, where I would suggest that, perhaps, the Ministry would come up with a Sessional Paper mentioning the requirements of each area. We have different requirements for different areas. For instance, for North-Eastern Province, we require different things, and for Coast Province, where there is more wind, we may use more wind energy, and for the cattle-rearing areas, we might use more biomass in the supply of electricity than we are doing elsewhere. I would like to appeal to the Ministry to carry out its own study, so that, we can, at least, supply Kenyans from different areas with requirements that are suitable for their own areas. This is very expensive after having been in a field similar to electricity, you find it extremely expensive when you have got to pull a wire from one corner of the country to the other just to ensure that the people are supplied with power. But I would like to appeal that a Sessional Paper, perhaps, be introduced soon for us to study in this House.

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

Mr. Mbui: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, truly speaking, there is a problem in power supply. In fact, there has been no development in the power sector. The Minister, officers from the Ministry and KPLC also know this very well. I hope that they would realise that they are doing a disservice to this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the Minister was contributing, he talked about rural electrification. This one has not been happening and it has been so much politicised that, unless you are well known to a certain politician, there will be no rural electrification in your own area. We have seen it happen during election campaigns, where some areas have been supplied with poles. But, no sooner is KANU defeated, than the electricity poles are pulled removed. This is a bad thing because this is a national issue and it should be practised that way. Sometimes we must not be fully blamed.

The Minister for Energy (Mr. D.M. Mbela): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like hon. Mbui to substantiate his claim, because it is completely untrue.

Mr. Mbui: I think, after that one, I will ask the hon. Minister to apologise because he really does not know or understand his Ministry well. This was done in Kipipiri and I saw it myself with my eyes.

Mr. Nthenge: He saw it!

Mr. Mbui: I saw it. They were dumped along the roads to Wanjohi and Tumaini.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my own people---

The Minister for Energy (Mr. D.M. Mbela): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. If the House is interested in the truth, I would like to say, categorically, that has never been done. After the elections were completed, more than Kshs10 million has been spent towards rural electrification in Kipipiri. Tomorrow I will be able to give you even the names of the officers who have been working out there following that programme.

Mr. Mbui: What is his point of order? He is wasting my time, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. In my own constituency, people have been asked to contribute towards rural electrification by a former KANU Chairman. No electricity has ever been supplied to those areas and it is well known. It has been said here that some grass thatched houses in some favoured areas have been supplied with electricity to provide light for sheep and goats.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order! Order! Hon. Mbui, I want you to deal with issues of the Vote that we are discussing; I do not think you should go down to discussing what I may call, "petty issues." Hon. Mbui and, I am serious on that one, can you direct yourself to the real issues which can help this House and this nation?

Mr. Mbui: Thank you, very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. But, I hope the Minister will not provoke me again. I was going to give a very nice contribution to assist the personnel there. They have talked of coffee factories and, I come from the coffee area, I need electricity and I support them for that one. But, we should know which coffee factories he is talking about, because we would not like this particular money to be diverted and then we are told at the end of the day, that money was not spent. We have got secondary schools that I know in Mwea, for example; one secondary school was supplied with electricity after the hon. Member for that area approached a very senior politician, and the politician told the gathering: "Okay, we shall give you electricity." What I am saying is this: The personnel in the Kenya Power and Lighting Company should be left alone, because they have got brains to do things and they can plan for this country. They know where to supply electricity, and they should not be manipulated by politicians who turn to be grabbers of that particular Ministry. Otherwise, we shall be blaming other people for no reason.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that time is gone, but the issue here is, I would like to tell those people who are in charge of Kenya Power and Lighting Company, to check their accounts properly, because one day, Kenyans will question the spending of money. They should not be misused the same way Mr. Koinange, the former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury was used in the Goldenberg issue.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Before we adjourn, hon. Mbui you have five more minutes tomorrow and so you will continue appropriately.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Hon. Members, it is now time for the interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday 9th October, 1996, at 9.00 a.m.

The House adjourned at 6.30 p.m.