

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 28th March, 1996

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

The following Paper was laid on the Table:-

The Statistical Abstract, 1995, Central Bureau of Statistics.

(By the Assistant Minister for Planning and National Development (Mr. Oyondi) on behalf of the Vice-President and Minister for Planning and National Development)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

CORRECTION ON RESULTS OF THE DIVISION

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Hon. Members, it has been brought to my attention that there was an error in computing the results of the Division taken yesterday, Wednesday, March 27th, 1996, on the amendment moved on the Procedural Motion on the appointment of the Sessional committee. Thus, the correct results of that Division, as verified by the two Tellers for the AYES, namely, Mr. Wawire and Mr. Munyasia, are as follows: AYES -61, NOES - 25 and Abstention - nil.

BILLS

First Readings

THE KENYA INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION BILL

THE PHYSICAL PLANNERS REGISTRATION BILL

THE PHYSICAL PLANNING BILL

(Orders for First Readings read - Read the First Time - Ordered to be read the Second Time tomorrow)

MOTION

THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

THAT the thanks of this House be recorded the exposition of public policy contained in His Excellency's Presidential Address from the Chair on March 26, 1996.

(The Vice-President and the Minister for Planning and National Development on 27.3.96)

(Resumption of Debate interrupted on 27.3.96)

Mr. Nthenge: Thank you, very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Yesterday, I was concluding on what an hon. Member should be doing. First, as I had said, he has to sacrifice. The Government also has some things to do. One, it should accept that we are in a multi-party democracy. Even when we were not having a multi-party democracy, by virtue of being human beings, we had multi-party democracy due to the fact that everybody had an opinion. It is the duty of the Government, therefore, to know that every Kenyan belongs to the Government. Therefore, his, or her ideas should be listened to and considered. The welfare of each and every Kenyan irrespective of his or her beliefs should be taken into consideration and taken care of by the Government. That is why throughout my political life, I have been saying that taxes can be raised as much as the Government wants provided that all the taxes collected are spent on wananchi. In other words, it is our own money and we should spend it. That is the idea.

We do not have to go to hospital only to be told that we do not have medicine. We should be taxed so that when we go to hospital, we find that doctors and nurses have all that they require and that their numbers are adequate. When we visit schools, we should find the best teachers there. However, due to selfishness which I talked of yesterday, you find, quite often, that children of influential people do not go to Government schools because the best teachers leave Government schools to go and teach in private schools because they are paid better.

That is wrong; it should be the other way round. We should pay our taxes properly so that the Government can use that money to make everybody get what he deserves.

The Government should also know that every Member of Parliament and every leader has the right to address the public and tell them what he thinks. It is shameful for a man like myself who fought the British to go out of this country--- I used to get licenses to hold meetings and tell the public that I wanted the British to go out of this country and yet I was getting permits from the same British Government, but now I cannot get a permit to address a public meeting from my own Government. I am the Member of Parliament for Kamukunji and I have applied for licenses several times to no avail. Normally I attend FORD(A) meetings, if I am lucky to get permits.

At the end of the meetings, when the VIPs including the national office bearers like hon. Martin Shikuku and myself are supposed to speak, police officers disperse the public so that the meetings end up before any of us can speak. When we attended hon. Mulusya's meeting, and they noticed that I was about to speak, they called in the police to disperse the crowd. Many hon. Members are complaining about this type of harassment. Even if my policy is not in favour of the Government, I should be allowed to sell it. The Government should also sell its policy and we see who has the majority. If I happen to get the majority, I will lead this country beautifully. I am a better leader than many people but I have got to be tested and if I fail to get the majority, I agree to be led by anybody. It is wrong for me to be told that I do not have a majority by being refused the right to sell my own policy. My own policy is a very simple one; freedom for everybody and justice. It is a big injustice for an hon. Member to be told "You cannot hold meetings anywhere in Kenya even in your own constituency". So I am appealing to the President's Office to tell the PC's to allow us to be given licences to hold our meetings.

The Kenya Broadcasting Corporation should be allowed also to announce what I say whether it is good or bad for a particular human being. It is my own idea and it should be publicised. Recently we had a theft in Nyanja House and it looks as if the Government had an interest in that theft because up to now they have not arrested those people who went to our party's headquarters and stole everything.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Mumba: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for having recognised me as I came in.

First I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate his Excellency the President for having made a very lucid and thorough exposition of Government Policy as per his Speech on the Opening Day of this Session. Going through the Speech, one clearly sees his Excellency the President trying to harmonise the work of Members of Parliament here, both the KANU and the Opposition MP's. However, one can clearly see from the events of the last two days that Opposition Members have decided to come with a confrontational style during the deliberations of the House. I am praying for them to heed the words of wisdom of his Excellency the President which were contained in his Speech. I think that will enable them to work better in this House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, both the President and KANU have made a lot of strategic efforts to revamp and consolidate economic policies and efforts in this country. I think we must congratulate his Excellency the President for particularly forming the Presidential Economic Commission which I think will attempt or will be a steering vehicle for the formation of Government policy in this country. We must also congratulate the President and the other Heads of State from the neighbouring countries for the formation or revival of the East African Community or East African Co-operation. I think this is a very good step towards the development of economic structures which will enable this country, and the neighbouring countries, to forge ahead and create prosperity for the whole region.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the efforts that the Government has been making in the development of

economic policy are commendable. I think the Government has come out very clearly on the privatisation of Kenya Airways. I think it is a very good example of how the Government could privatise the entire lot of the parastatals. Wananchi, and Kenyans in general, are able to purchase shares in Kenya Airways. I think if all parastatals have been handled the way Kenya Airways has been handled, there would be an even distribution of the economic cake. I am saying this because I think the Government still has room to improve on the distribution of these resources and here I have in mind a set-up like the Kenya Cashewnuts Company in Kilifi. I believe if the Kenya Cashewnuts Limited's shares had been sold to the Coastal people as Kenya Airways is doing, we in the Coast Province will enjoy the national cake better than the present time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am asking the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing to look into the possibilities of privatising the Kenya Cashewnuts Limited. I think although it was sold, there is still room for the Coastal people to be given an opportunity to buy shares in that Company in the same way Kenya Airways has done.

The Government, and his Excellency the President, is making a lot of efforts to create prosperity and we support his Excellency the President on this. The thing that is uppermost in the minds of Kilifi people is land. Today, the President comes up with very eloquent and articulate Speech and gives us hope but what happens is that the public officers manning the Ministry of Lands and Settlement are corrupt in that while wananchi are waiting to be settled, they are busy dishing out the same land to those who are powerfully connected.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are requesting the Ministry of Lands and Settlement to look at that and put an end to it. It is not surprising to see people with land allotment letters in Kilifi walking the streets passing and asking "Where is this piece of land?" when we know squatters who are registered are awaiting to be allocated the same which has already been given to people from outside Kilifi. Those are words that should be remembered and this practice should be checked.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no meaningful human development that can occur anywhere if there is no water and while the Government, and the leadership of this country, is making a lot of efforts to provide water to all by the year 2000, I think the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development is letting us down. It is letting us down because I do not think that they are taking this issue of water in Kilifi seriously. I am saying this because while his Excellency the President is making all efforts to provide water by coming all the way down to Kilifi to direct the Minister for Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development to make sure that a water project in Roka Location is functional, this does not happen. That was way back in 1993, 30th August, to be precise. The Minister was given upto November the same year to make sure that project is functional but nothing has happened to date. The project is not functional and if the Ministry was serious, that project could have been functional by now.

People are losing their lives trekking in search of water selling at Kshs25 a debe. I am saying this because this is a reflection of how public servants are letting the President down. I am saying this because we want to see action from institutions which are vested with authority to oversee the management of our national resources and national projects. This is not being given adequate attention by those offices which we are referring to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unless public servants are prepared to help the President, he will have a hard time, because, while he is creating an environment that is enabling for the development of this country, some public servants are doing things contrary to those aspirations.

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

Prof. Mzee: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this important Motion on the Presidential Speech during the official opening of Parliament. Maybe this Fifth Session of the Seventh Parliament maybe the last Session of the first Multi-Party Parliament. Or, maybe, there may be only one more Session before Parliament is dissolved.

Hon. Member: How do you know?

Prof. Mzee: I am sure you do not think that you are going to stay here for ever. The question is, what changes has the Seventh Parliament been able to effect in order to enhance good governance, accountability, democracy, human rights and improvement in the economy. When I talk about improvement in the economy, I do not refer to rhetoric on how much money we have been able to be given by the Paris Club. Because, every single penny of that has to be paid back and we cannot measure economic improvement just by some loans that we receive from the Paris Club. I think the improvement of the economy is measured by the improvement of the standard of living of the common man in this country and also by the increase of employment opportunities we have been able to create as a result of attracting investments into the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been a lot of questions put forward by the Opposition on what is expected from this Seventh Parliament. I would like to make it clear that the Opposition's main function is to keep

the ruling party on its toes and criticise the Government constructively whenever it goes wrong. There is no such a thing as the Opposition co-operating with the Government to accomplish certain things because we are here as an alternative government to the present KANU Government. So, we are here to point out the ills of the Government, constructively, and I think this we have done. Even though the Opposition never worked as a single group throughout the Seventh Parliament, this allowed the ruling party to continue mismanaging the economy of this country, example of which is the taking over of multi-million dollar loan and putting it on the heads of the taxpayer from the Kenya Airways, the purchase of the Presidential Jet from a company which has gone bankrupt. At the time when those purchases were being made, it was known that, that company was already bankrupt and was almost in receivership. We cannot help to believe that there must have been a lot of kickbacks under the table when that deal was made at the expense of the taxpayers without the approval of this House. This Government has to know that it cannot spend a single penny without the approval of this Parliament. The millions being used for the construction of the Eldoret airport, the billions of dollars which are involved in the Kenya Airways debt and so many other things have put a big strain on the economy of this country. Then after doing that we go back and sing and say that this is okay and start praising one another while the taxpayers are the people who are carrying the burden of all this.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the common man is a good judge of the performance of the Members of Parliament and I am afraid if the Opposition and the ruling party do not come together and do what they had promised to do and that is to repeal during this Seventh Parliament all repressive laws--- What I had in mind is the Chief's Act, the law of detention and other laws and constitutional reforms. If we do not level the playing field in preparation of the 1997 election by forming a credible electoral commission, then most of us may not see this Parliament again. However, we still have this Session and maybe another Session to address this matter. We have time to improve, we just have to realise that we have not delivered what we promised to deliver to the people and we sit together and we deliver those things.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, corruption has become institutionalised in our society. This has been referred to very well in the President's Speech. But the President has connected corruption with tribalism. I must say I have been a University Professor for 20 years and I have noticed one thing, just before the onset of multiparty democracy, movement, awareness, it was very difficult to make up which students came from where or which side.

But in 1992, headed by the ruling party KANU, by the Chairman of the ruling party KANU, tribalism was revived in full swing. So, corruption is individualistic, it is not tribalism. Corruption is institutionalised in our society. Government officials and tax-collectors are like a Mafia organization in this country, diverting billions of Kenya shillings into their own pockets. We have been told now, KPA is remitting Kshs2 billion a month to the Kenya Revenue Authority. What was happening before? What happened to the billions and billions of shillings in the past which were never remitted to the Kenya Revenue Authority?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what started as a major operation at the Kenya Ports Authority, has turned out to be a cosmetic window-dressing. In spite of the fact that we have been told that the investigations will extend to Kenya Airports Authority and to others, nothing has happened. Everybody has been involved in this, from the highest to the lowest; everybody! When I say the highest level, I mean the highest level is involved in the corruption in this country, and that is the reason why the investigation was stopped and nothing is happening, it is only cosmetic as the present time. This is to appease the donors at the Paris---

The Assistant Minister for Land reclamation, Regional and Water Development (Mr. Ligale) On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Did you get it right from the hon. Member speaking that corruption involves "highest" and he repeated, "the highest"? Can he substantiate that or withdraw that remark?

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have senior members in the Government and there are junior members in the Government. What I am saying is that it has reached the highest level, and everybody knows where the highest level is. The meeting between three---

Mr. Muite: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member for Kisauni to talk about the "highest" level without stating specifically what he means by the "highest" level?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Prof. Mzee, continue.

Prof. Mzee: Mr. Deputy Speaker, even the meeting between the President and the three Opposition Members of Parliament turned out to be only cosmetic; just to appease the Paris Club. How can four important people meet to discuss identity cards only? Land grabbing continues unabated, gazetted historic sites have been de-gazetted to allow grabbers to help themselves. Senior Government officials are involved in this. As I stand here, the Mama Ngina Drive, which is a gazetted historic site has been de-gazetted. Only a week ago, when there was a visit by the President to Mombasa, the Mayor was instructed to approve plans for the construction and development of Mama Ngina Drive.

Mr. J.D. Lotodo: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to say a few things, about this Motion. I think the hon. Members are back in the House, after a long recess, and now it is time for members to say what they have been doing in the field.

First of all, I would like to congratulate His Excellency the President, for his exemplary leadership that has led this country into greater heights of prosperity. Peace, love and unity which has been preached by His Excellency the President, has sown great seeds in this country and we are saying that development is really coming up. I would like to appeal to hon. Members in the Opposition to forget about their political affiliation, because here we are dealing with the problems facing the people of this country, and to them it does not matter whether one is an Opposition supporter or KANU supporter. If we talk of the problems in this country, be it lack of roads, education, health facilities and so forth, everybody is really interested in getting those facilities from the Government. I would like to appeal to hon. Members to avoid the confrontational politics which is typical of this country, as being spearheaded by the Opposition Members. One of the most important aspect which was noted in the Presidential Address, was the economic growth, which has been improving. There is no way we can get economic growth if there is no cooperation among the people of this country, especially the leaders. All the problems which are currently facing this country, I might say, are caused by our friends in the Opposition side, who in the past, were in the Government; in high positions, some were Permanent Secretaries, and there after, after looting the property of the Government, they turned round and said; the Government has looted the property of wananchi. So, I would like to appeal to them that we should be brothers and sisters in this country and forget about those political ideologies which are going to be detrimental to Kenyans at large.

I would like also to touch on the issue of investment, which was highlighted in His Excellency the President's Speech. This country is so peaceful that all the investors in the world are interested in investing in it. This is going to create employment opportunities for our youth. I would like to take this opportunity to thank World Bank and International Monetary Fund for agreeing to give aid to this country, because they realise that previously the propaganda which was carried by some of the Opposition Members was really null and void. What I am trying to say here is that we should avoid negative publicity, which of course is more individualistic than nationalistic.

I would also like to touch on a few issues concerning the recent launching of the East African Co-operation which we see now. The three sister States will really enjoy the economic growth. Now that people are trading across the borders, we can see that some of the items or goods which we produce in this country can be sold to other countries. That will encourage, of course investment and also economic growth.

Also I would like to touch on one of the issues which has become very dangerous of late. The is thuggery in the country which appears to be politically motivated. This is because there been cases of thuggery, robberies and car jacking, which has not been the case in the previous years. These things can be contained if the society is really civil and organised and also interested in the growth of their country. They have been bestowed with the responsibility of making their country enjoy the prosperity it deserves.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to touch on agriculture. Now we know that agriculture is the mainstay of our economy, and we should all try to encourage our farmers to produce food to avoid any situation whereby every now and then we are forced import maize into the country. We know that the farmers of this country are be able to produce maize and other foodstuffs that we require to maintain our population.

On livestock development, we realise that there are so many diseases which are of course causing a lot of problems to the dairy farmers. There are so many parts of this country which are really high potential and can produce a lot of milk. I want to call upon the Ministry concerned to ensure that the veterinary drugs are given to all the rural areas and also the high potential areas to ensure that animal diseases are controlled.

I want to touch on education. The 8-4-4 system of education has proved to be the best. However, despite the fact that it could be costly to educate our children, we see that these costs can be subsidized by the Government through cost-sharing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one thing I would like to touch on is that of technical schools. If we had technical personnel in this country, we could really progress. Now it seems as if the standard of technical institutions has so far gone down and we should encourage all those who have done technical subjects to join those institutions so that they can be more productive.

I would also like to talk on bursary schemes for the universities which are granted by the Higher Education Loans Board. There is a bit of an anomaly where in some instances we have seen names of students who had been admitted into the universities but never reported because they did not get these bursaries. I do not know what criteria those people who select students who benefit from these bursaries use because these students were left behind. I think that is an issue which, of course, the Minister for Education should look into so that we do not lose these brains and in this way, everybody will have a chance to enjoy fruits of education.

One of the issues I want to raise is the security of this country. Other people seem not interested in the security of the country by, for example, using inciting language and causing a lot of despondence. You definitely know that "should hell break loose" you will not be left out of trouble. You will face the music like everybody else. So, it is high time that all of us came together and tried to see how best we can maintain the security of this country. The other day I saw in the newspapers some FORD(K) members throwing stones. I did see a photograph of somebody carrying a briefcase full of stones. One would have thought that it was a fight between the Gor Mahia and AFC Leopards after a football match. I think that is not a democratic process that we are talking about.

Dr. Kituyi: On a point of information, Sir.

Mr. J.D. Lotodo: I do not need your information!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is an issue which we should be very careful about. We should try to see that security is maintained in the country at all costs.

I would like to commend the Police Force for establishing the new "Police Hotlines". I know that so many robbers have been caught because of this new move and I am sure that we have maintained security in the country.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Mulusya: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I stand to "heckle" the statement which was read out here for about 15 minutes by His Excellency the President. The whole world was waiting for a speech that would have lasted---

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The speaker on the Floor has said that he stands to "heckle" the Speech of His Excellency the President. Is he in order to say so?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in veterinary medicine, there is no such word as "heckle" but there is "echo". What we are saying is that---

The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Masinde): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Surely, we come here to deliberate very serious issues and the word "heckling" is unparliamentary.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think hon. Mulusya means "echo" and not "heckle"!

(Laughter)

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans were expecting the Speech to last not less than one hour. After waiting for three months outside there without hearing the President gazetting the opening of the National Assembly, we expected a longer Speech than that. In fact, we came back one week or three weeks later than we normally do. People wanted us to be here earlier than this, as has been the tradition, so as to discuss matters affecting them. So, when there was that long delay everybody thought that His Excellency the President was preparing his long Speech. It was a disappointment; a speech that lasted only 20 minutes from the Head of State was a disappointment.

I also want to congratulate one great Mkamba who has stood up above any other Mkamba and said, "I refuse to be used like a toilet paper". This is Prof. Philip Mbithi. He refused to be used after having worked for this country for so long. After spending so many hours working for this country, the fellow---

Mr. Mumba: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to refer to Prof. Mbithi as "having been used like a toilet paper" when we know that he was not used like a toilet paper?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! I think with due respect, I will consider that as unparliamentary language. In the context hon. Mulusya has used it, I consider the reference to toilet paper as unparliamentary. Withdraw that term.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I withdraw the use of the word "toilet paper" and substitute it with "waste paper".

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have seen many Kambas, starting with Mr. Philip Kilonzo who was the Commissioner of Police, being used to kill and fight anything which the Government was involved in. He was supposed to make sure that he "covered" all the ills. There had been Kivuvani who had been listening to what we said so as to tell those in power when the Opposition was going to form an alliance. He has also been thrown out.

We had Senior Commissioner, Ndambuki, who worked so much for this country and now he has been thrown out. There are some Government appointments---

Mr. Leshore: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Mulusya in order to address this House as if he is a tribal chief?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That is frivolous!

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what do you expect from an ex-policeman? I am talking about

their welfare. He is one of them who have been misused. He is still a Back-bencher after working as a spy for so long for this Government.

Mr. Leshore: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want the speaker---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order, Mr. Leshore!

Mr. Leshore: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I do not think I will take that with a light touch. If I am an informer, could he tell the House what an informer is? Let him substantiate what an informer is. I am not an informer!

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has innumerable labels! He has been a member of the former YK 92 group. Where is your Jirongo?

What we are saying is that as a community, we refuse to be misused. I want to tell those senior civil servants who are being sent to come and woo me to defect to KANU to stop doing so. I will only be rejected by the people of Kangundo through the vote in 1997. Those who want me to come here on a KANU ticket, should forget it. I will not sell my people's votes. Instead, I will defend them from this side of the House, until this corrupt Government exits from power in 1997.

What we have witnessed of late is defiance by civil servants, who cannot even take orders from the Head of the Public Service; civil servants, who are not able to take orders from Ministers. These [**Mr. Mulusya**] civil servants are able to defy the orders, because they spend most of the morning time in the corridors of State House. They have failed to do their work and the Civil Service is being run by very junior people, who cannot make decisions when those decisions need to be made. I have in mind the Commissioner of Lands, who has failed since the beginning of this year, to sign even a single title deed. This is because he is very busy in State House. The Minister is here and he can stand up and deny this. Mr. Gachanja has not been able to sign a single title deed, because he has godfathers who are here.

The Minister for Lands and Settlement (Gen. Mulinge): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member for Kangundo in order to say that the Commissioner of Lands has never signed even a single title deed? Can he substantiate that?

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, give me a chance to walk with the Minister to Mr. Gachanja's office and we report back to this House, and we will see there, more than 3,000 unsigned title deeds. The Minister is not able to instruct Mr. Gachanja to sign a single title deed, even for his own brother. Mr. Gachanja is above the Minister and everybody else.

The Minister for Lands and Settlement (Gen. Mulinge): On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want hon. Mulusya to substantiate that the Commissioner of Lands has never signed a single title deed.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said that I am ready for that challenge. All that the Minister needs to do is to accompany me to Ardhi House. On the way we will be speaking Kikamba and not Kiswahili.

The Minister for Lands and Settlement (Gen. Mulinge): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want the hon. Member to substantiate his allegation or withdraw it. He should substantiate his allegation that the Commissioner of Lands has never signed a single title deed this year, or withdraw it.

Mr. Mulusya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said that the Commissioner of Lands has not been signing title deeds. I have discussed the same issue with the Minister. Why does he now want to be a turncoat in this House? I have spoken to him about this problem. He knows it but he cannot help this country in spite of his being the Minister! Why does he not resign? If he cannot resign, let him retire!

Mr. Leshore: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to give my views on the Presidential Address. Even the Bible tells us this: Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God, what belongs to God. So, let us give credit to the President of this country, for having made Kenyans proud and united. He spoke about unity in his Address. He has gone out of his way to show Kenyans that we must stand as one country. He has gone out to meet the three Opposition leaders. He discussed with them various issues concerning our nation. We must commend him for that job.

A second credit should go to the President for his efforts to bring East Africans together. Many of us are proud that we are now one East Africa. I hope that our Presidents will go out of their way to create an East African federation, which would be headed on rational basis. We would be very proud to have one East African nation.

The president also spoke about economic reforms. We are very happy that now, we are on the right economic track. Two years ago, Kenyans were languishing in hunger and were suffering. The prices of commodities were very high but now, they are stabilising. We are very happy that the officers who are concerned with economic reforms, have done their work. I would like to commend the Minister for Finance, the Governor

of the Central Bank, the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and the President for doing that good job.

I would like to tell my colleagues on the opposite side that to rule 24 million Kenyans, among whom are the likes of Messrs Raila, Muite, Gitau, Makau, Falana and Mrs Ndeti, is not an easy job. We must give the President all the support he needs to make Kenyans proud of their nation. I would like to call upon my colleagues on the opposite side of the House to stop talking like tribal chiefs and unite with those of us in the Government, so that we can make Kenya a peaceful country. We have been talking about peace since we came to this House. The Opposition hon. Members have been saying "Kanu is inciting people", but now Kenyans have known who the inciters are. Events have shown that Opposition people are the worst inciters of violence in Kenya. Look at what is happening in Mombasa, Kisumu and Nairobi where the Opposition is involved. Nobody has come out, even one day, to tell the world that the Opposition should stop inciting Kenyans. We do not need bloodshed. We want a peaceful country because without peace Kenya will not prosper.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a colleague of mine on the other side of the House said that tribalism is individualism, which is the cause of corruption. I tend to disagree with him. Tribalism is the root cause of corruption. As unemployment increases in Kenya, very many intelligent young Kenyans will not approach any personnel officer, without giving him a goat or another kind of handout because of tribalism. But if the unemployed youth comes from the personnel officer's tribe, he does not ask for much. So, I tend to disagree that individualism is the cause of corruption: It is tribalism which is the root cause of corruption in this country. Hon. Members should tell Kenyans to forget about tribalism and be one Kenya.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about security. I would like to commend the Police Force for the commendable job they did in weeding out criminals in Nairobi. They have done a very good job and I would like to tell the Minister of State, Office of the President who is in charge of Internal Security that the Police Force needs equipment, skills, training and motivation. When I talk about the equipment and skills, I have in mind one police post in my area where young policemen are sleeping out in the cold without tents and communication equipments. I have discussed this with the Minister and his Permanent Secretary on very many occasions, but my pleas have fallen on deaf ears. I would request the Minister to approach the Government to ensure that our police officers are well equipped, trained and motivated. With regards to motivation, police officers should be given incentives. Indeed, their salaries should not be the same as those of other civil servants. We are here because policemen are around and our security is guaranteed.

Secondly, I would like the Minister of State, Office of the President in charge of Internal Security to elevate the Police Training College at Kiganjo to a police academy where awards of certificates and diplomas could be conferred to our police officers. Most policemen retire without proper certificates although most of them have been trained inside and outside this country.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair)

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about the water situation in this country. We are now approaching the year 2000 and many Kenyans including myself do not have water. I have approached the Minister and the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development, but all in vain. Corruption is rampant in this Ministry. The water engineers that we have in the districts are very corrupt. We had one in Samburu who sold everything after we were given about Kshs.6 million. He was taken to Kitui, but people rejected him. He is now in Kakamega. After squandering money in Samburu, he was transferred to Kakamega to wait for another allocation to be given to him this year. Are these the type of civil servants that we are supposed to rely on? No! The Government machinery should start working now and bring such people to book.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, most of my constituency is semi-arid. When the Government allocates some funds to us, we would like to see such funds being utilised properly. I am afraid this is not so. I would like the Minister to weed out the corrupt officers and throw them out of the Service, and give a chance to many other Kenyans who are ready to give services to their Kenyan brothers.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regards to agriculture which is the mainstay of our economy, we have now started growing wheat on a small-scale basis in Samburu. Our main problem is lack of machinery. The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing toured the area and promised to give us tractors, but up to now we have not received them. I take this opportunity to request the Minister once again, to give us these tractors because we are determined to improve agriculture in the district. There are some bi-lateral

agreements that have been entered into with other governments and organisations like the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and other European governments. Most of these programmes are turning into projects where money is siphoned out.

With those few remarks, I support this Motion.

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to His Excellency the President's Speech which he made here last Tuesday.

Like all other speeches which emanate from the Government, it was full of wisdom and advice, not only to the hon. Members of Parliament, but also to the Kenyan population at large. But I wonder whether the fate of His Excellency the President's Speech is not going to be the fate which has befallen many other great speeches made in this House. In short, I want to commend Kenyans for having wisdom to express their views and to produce ideas that can work.

Unfortunately, all those things have been limited to mere speeches because the will to take action is lacking in all directions. The political will to implement what has been assessed as politically feasible is also lacking. What has been assessed on the basis of the opinions of the people, has not been implemented, and this is the problem we have in Kenya. Therefore, I think we need to do much more than speaking. We need to direct our energies to actions.

Admittedly, the actions which have been taken on security have shown a change of heart, but the tourist industry still crouches on insecurity in Kenya. The industry still prays for the basic infrastructure to be improved and for water systems to be made better. No wonder many industries have, allegedly for purifying water, multiplied. It is not that we do not have water to drink, but I am afraid that there is no action to provide clean and acceptable water even to our tourist industry. Many establishments have to buy purifying plants thus spending colossal amounts of money because there is no political will to actually provide Kenyans with clean water.

What about the stories we hear from Kirinyaga and Mwea about all that muck that is flowing into rivers and wells from which people are drinking water? So, when are we going to act on these things? It is all very well for the President to come here and talk about these things, but of what benefit is it to Kenyans if his Ministers, instead of addressing these issues, engage themselves in matters that actually discredit this Government rather than support it?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have in mind, for example, the splitting of Kangema Division into two administrative units. We ask questions here and we are told that these issues must be taken to the DDC, and we attempt to do that. The sub-division of this division was taken to the local Sub-DDC in Kangema and the boundaries were approved. There were four locations in each segment. The Sub-DDC's recommendations were taken to the District Development Committee, which adopted them as a working document. The same boundaries were presented to the Electoral Commission, and a nominated Member of KANU, charges around like a wounded buffalo, changing boundaries everywhere against the wishes of the people and, I know, against the advice of the district administration. Perhaps, he has gone far enough in the usual version of Kenya, to cheat the President that he has a lot of rich people in Rwathia Location. The Rwathia Location people do not even marry---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order, hon. Michuki! The word "cheat" is unacceptable. Will you withdraw it?

Mr. Michuki: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with you and I withdraw, but you must know the circumstances in which I am speaking. I agree the word is misleading and I was aware of it. However, when the wishes of the people are disregarded, what is the use of the President telling us that as Kenyans, we must unite, solidify and reconcile? How can we reconcile when our issues that we raise and the matters that are dear to us are disregarded and thrown about as if they do not matter, by people who are seeking power and not working for the country? So, this is the situation in which we find ourselves. Good speeches, but actions---Where? When are we going to respect the wishes of the people? The people who form Kenya do not all necessarily belong to KANU. In fact, the last general elections showed that the Opposition is the majority. When is their will going to be respected?

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we come with such speeches here, but we do the contrary. The Rwathia people, actually occupy what is called "little Murang'a". Somebody goes and tells the President; "these are my rich people", yet these people do not even inter-marry with the people in the place where he comes from. They are not even partners in these businesses, which belong to a lot of clans-Mihiriga, and all that. Therefore, I am requesting the Minister in charge to honour the wishes of Kangema people and make sure that, in his dealing

with the division and trying to sub-divide that division, he respects the wishes of the people, which is that Kangema North be constituted of Kamacharia, Kiru, Gitugi and Njumbi. Also, that Kangema South be constituted of Iyego, Muguru, Rwathia and Kanyenyaini.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether to support or to do what. Thank you.

Mrs. Nyamato: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to commend His Excellency the President. He has done a lot for this country and has promoted peace.

An. hon. Member: Very good!

Mrs. Nyamato: I would like to caution my fellow hon. Members in this House, some of whom happen to own Newspapers and other things, that they should follow the President's footsteps by promoting peace instead of always hurling abuses through their Newspapers and Magazines. They hurl abuses at fellow leaders as a result of which they create hatred and promote ill feelings among Kenyans.

(Applause)

(Hon. Gatabaki stood up)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): Order, Mr. Gatabaki! I will give you time to speak.

Mrs. Nyamato: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I always think that a man should not think that he will be respected---

An. hon. Member: Very good!

Mr. Gatabaki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for an hon. Member to stand up in this House and talk derisively about another hon. Member and mention newspapers without being specific? Is she talking about me and, if she is talking about me, can she be specific?

An. hon. Member: Go ahead!

An. hon. Member: Are you guilt-conscious?

Mrs. Nyamato: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I always think that one is not respected because, probably, you have got an instrument and you are capable of abusing other people who may not be having the same facility with which to return the abuses. Kenyans will respect you and appreciate your efforts if you contribute positively towards developing this society by contributing what is good for the country and not promoting war-like activities through such publications.

An. Member: Correct! Tell them!

Mrs. Nyamato: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to comment on the recently concluded Maendeleo ya Wanawake Organisation elections. I appeal to the men, especially the men politicians, to desist from interfering in such elections and request them that if they feel that they also want to participate in something similar, then, maybe, they could form a maendeleo ya wanaume organisation and hold elections, so that they can get something to occupy themselves with.

An. hon. Member: Correct!

(Applause)

Mrs. Nyamato: I would like to give an example of---

An. hon. Member: Of hon. Kamotho!

(Laughter)

Mrs. Nyamato: I would like to give an example of Nyamira District where elections at the district level never took place because the KANU Secretary for the district 'hijacked' the elections and announced the officials. I would also like to request senior Government officials to desist from issuing statements on behalf of Maendeleo ya Wanawake Organisation because it is an organisation that has got its own officials. Now that we have a Minister for Culture and Social Services, who is also a woman, we hope she will understand women affairs and also talk on behalf of women. With such interference, the chances are that the Organisation is soon going to die because most of the officials who have been elected are not going to perform their duties freely. They are only going to serve the interests of the politicians who assisted in selecting them. So, I appeal to my colleagues here in the House that they should respect the women organisation and leave the women to choose their leaders freely. These leaders will then be able to represent various women from the grass-roots to various levels in the society.

As regards land distribution in this country there seems to be a progress of abusing land allocation. I have, for example, a spring in Nyasiongo in Nyamira District that was allocated to some doctors. Those doctors have fenced around the spring and denied water to about 60 families. It is not going to benefit any one from such a small spring, but the chances are that they will get a title deed that will be misused. I appeal to land officers to make the precedent easy so that they do not cause unnecessary problems to *wananchi* because sometimes this does not augur well. It might turn the people against the Administration in their local areas when such actions probably have been done by one careless individual in the district.

On the question of roads, as weather now in the country is bad and there is a lot of rain, the roads in Kisii and Nyamira districts are impassable. I am grateful to the Minister for Public Works and Housing, Prof. Jonathan Ng'eno. He made a tour of the districts and he saw the roads for himself and I hope that something will be done so that by the time we go back on recess roads will be passable in the two districts.

On the question of Civil Service, I have been a civil servant, and I am referring to what hon. Member said here earlier that those tribes that have been lucky to hold senior positions in the Government, my appeal to them is not to frustrate other tribes because it appears that nepotism in Kenya has reached its climax. You have heard one of us recounting how their tribes have been lucky to hold senior positions from Director of Intelligence, Commissioner of Police and so many other positions. I do not want to refer to the people that I know and in whose hands many Kenyans have suffered. They should be grateful to the Government and not to blame the Government for they have managed to own over 6,000 acres of land.

In Nyamira District, one constituency has less than 60,000 acres and, therefore, those who have been blessed and have enjoyed the generosity of His Excellency the President should thank him and not to look down upon him. The only appreciation that they can show him is to work hard and support his Government and not to come back and say, "Oh, we have been victimised here and there," and probably go to the extent of embarrassing him by turning down even a Presidential appointment!

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to appeal to the Government to intensify market in this country so that women can be able to sell their produce easily. At the moment, we produce a lot of vegetables, fruits and so on. But because of the middlemen, the women who toiled more on the land benefit very little because the market outlet has not been organised properly for them in this country. I would, therefore, appeal to the Government to put more emphasis on the production of the horticulture and try to identify markets and proper co-operative societies whereby women could market their horticultural produce without necessarily going through the middlemen who, at the moment, exploit them. Women who toil hard are not making much profits.

I would also suggest that the fertilizer issue should be looked into. It has become too expensive to the extent that women who produce the vegetables are spending so much money on the fertilizer, but they have no proper facilities of selling their vegetables and fruits direct to the consumers or to the overseas markets. They spend so much money on fertilizers and make very little from their hard labour. This is something that could be looked into so that women who toil so hard could enjoy the fruits of their labour.

As regards the handcraft producers, I wish also to appeal to the Government to look into ways of assisting them so that we do not allow foreigners to come and buy the handcraft direct from the women in the rural areas whereby they also exploit them. A market could be worked out in such a way that the weavers of the baskets, *ciondo* and other things can export their handcrafts directly to the overseas markets without being exploited by the overseas buyers who have now known our small villagers in Kitui, Machakos, Kisumu and Kisii whereby they go and buy those baskets direct from the rural women and pay very little money in Kenyan currency.

(An hon. Member shot up)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ndotto): What is your problem? You have to wait until the hon. Member ends up her contribution.

Mrs. Nyamato: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Presidential Speech.

Mr. Murungi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me these ten minutes to comment on the Presidential Address.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the late President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta was still alive, in the beginning, he used to talk for very many hours, two or three hours, but towards the end of his life his speeches were only for five minutes. With President Moi who looks quite strong, we do not understand why he had to

give only a 12-minute speech! We do not know whether this is sending the correct messages! And those who are advising him should be writing longer speeches so that Kenyans do not start thinking that we are reaching the end.

The President said that we should unite. KANU and Opposition should rise above our partisan party interests so that we can together lay firm foundation for this country. I listened to the Deputy Speaker when he was speaking before the President spoke and he was saying that politicians begin their careers with very high hopes and dreams, but realities shatter those dreams. As I was sitting here, I was wondering whether the President was not day-dreaming about us working closely with KANU to lay firm foundation for this country. We find it extremely difficult to work with KANU. In fact, "it is easier for the camel to enter through the eye of the needle than for KANU and Opposition to work together today". If they could not give the Leader of Opposition just ten minutes, then how else can we work with KANU?

I have been trying to understand why it is very difficult for us to work with KANU and I have come out with five different reasons. Although KANU is here laughing and smiling with us, they always have a consistent "hidden agenda". Their "hidden agenda" is to return this country, according to them, to the "golden days" of one-party rule.

Day and night, KANU is using various strategies in its attempt to return Kenya to the dark days of one-party rule and we cannot join them in that enterprise. KANU has used bribery, deception, intimidation; it has misused the Special Branch, it has misused Provincial Administration and it has misused the police to try to advance that course of returning this country to one-party rule.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with Mr. Kuria Kanyingi as master of ceremony, the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation, every evening is busy celebrating the pre-mature death of the Opposition. It is a pity to see Mr. Kuria Kanyingi touring most of Central Province saying the Opposition is dead when we know that the Opposition is very strong there. Let me tell Kenyans today, from this House that whether KANU likes it or not and despite its control of the instruments of propaganda, the Opposition is here to stay; it is strong and it is going to win.

KANU has rejected constitutional reforms and refused to repeal repressive colonial laws because it relies on this defective Constitution and these colonial laws to survive in power. We are working day and night to ensure that we are going to have constitutional and legal reforms this year whether KANU likes it or not. KANU has perfected its strategy of management through lies, deception and intimidation. In this country, KANU has been busy through harambees promoting a culture whereby the most respected leaders are those who have stolen most from the people. People like the Chairman of KANU in Kiambu District should explain where they get a million every weekend to go and give to women groups and the churches. If such a person was in another country, the day he goes and presents a million shillings in public, he would be arrested that evening to go and explain what kind of business he did in order to get that money.

The President said that we are winning the war against corruption. So long as we have KANU stalwarts having to bribe people for support every weekend by contributing a lot of money; so that we hear of "Kshs500 thousand from J.J. Kamotho and friends, Kshs500 thousand from Kuria Kanyingi and friends another Kshs1 million from another person," there will never be an end to corruption in this country. KANU survives in power because of corruption because it needs that money to bribe and cheat the people every weekend. So, I think the President should be told that so long as we have that kind of culture, we are not going to end corruption in this country.

Mr. Temporary, Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have also situations where KANU has milked milk farmers. The milk farmers have gone without payment for eight months. Their milk worth Kshs1.6 billion has not been accounted for. KANU had to take the taxpayers money to go and pay the milk farmers. We have to ask this: What happened to the milk worth Kshs1.6 billion which was sold and farmers were not paid? You cannot steal from milk farmers and then you come and give them the same millions in harambees.

KANU has also messed up the tea farmers in this country. The bonus last year, although the blame was put on the international market forces, we know that it was due to mismanagement and theft by certain officials whom we have taken to court. So, so long as KANU continues to exploit and oppress our farmers, we in the Opposition, will never work with them. KANU is the mother of corruption; the father of dictatorship; and the brother and sister of tyranny in this country. So long as KANU continues to be an evil force we can only work for its downfall.

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

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

May I take this opportunity to thank the almighty God for giving Kenya the peace we are enjoying, especially for protecting us from people who pretend to be learned when in actual fact they are not. If they are

given a chance to lead this Government, they would plunge Kenya into problems. Kenyans should be very grateful to God for giving us a man like His Excellency the President. He will go into the Guinness Book of Records as the only Member of Parliament who has been elected unopposed continuously for 40 years. Some hon. Members in this House had not started their nursery school education when his Excellency the President was elected. Some had not even been born. 40 years are not just four years. That is enough to make any Kenyan to salute His Excellency the President. We know that he had been a Vice-President for 12 years and a President for 17 years. So, 29 years are not just like three years.

I am happy to note that most of the Kenyans are learned and they can read. I have been saying in this House that we do not need theories, proverbs and sweet words. Such words do not help Kenyans. I am unhappy to note that the hon Members of the Opposition are looking at KANU every time as an enemy. When they are looking at this side of the House, they fail to see what is happening amidst their ranks behind there. If you look at the Opposition Bench behind there, it is empty because people are running away from them. *Waswahili husema: Kikulacho kinguoni mwako.* So, Members of the Opposition are destroying themselves and they should stop blaming KANU. It is high time they went back and re-assessed themselves.

When we talk of tribalism, we should realise that is biblical. If today you visit any firm belonging to hon. Members of the Opposition, including hon. Muite, you will find that 90 per cent of the people working there are Kikuyus. You will hardly find a Maasai.

Mr. Muite: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary, Deputy Speaker, Sir. If the hon. Member does not want me to refer to him as "this Maasai", he should refer to me as the hon. Member for Kikuyu, but not Muite.

Mr. Sankori: You are hon. Muite, but I am sure 90 per cent of the employees of your firm are Kikuyus.

May I, take this opportunity also to thank the Opposition for a few good things which they have done. First of all, I am really surprised to hear some Members of the Opposition saying that the three leaders of the Opposition who went to see the President did not discuss much. Surely, if that is not the kind of co-operation that is required, what else do you need? May, I also thank them for behaving well for the few months when were in recess, unlike other times when they went around the country to cause problems. This time, I must congratulate them for doing wonderful job. They tried to behave like hon. Members.

May I also take this opportunity to thank the Minister for Finance for trying to improve the economy of this country. While on that issue, it is also important to mention that a few Ministers should put their houses in order, starting with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing. We cannot have everybody complaining starting with tea farmers, milk farmers, coffee farmers and livestock farmers. Surely if you hear everybody complaining then there must be something wrong somewhere. Sugar-cane, Cereals and the rest of the farmers that I have mentioned are also complaining. If all of these things are supposed to be under one Ministry and everybody is complaining then there must be something wrong and I must request the Minister to go back to the drawing board and try to find out what is wrong because there must be something wrong somewhere.

The Uplands Bacon factory is closed and the pig farmers are selling their pigs to everybody. Kenya Meat Commission is also closed and we are now at the mercy of the slaughter houses which determine the prices of our cows. So I think some reshuffle should be done.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming to the point of security, we have been saying that security can actually succeed if all of us join hands together and try to save this country from a lot of problems. A bullet does not choose whether you are in KANU or the Opposition and a criminal is a criminal regardless of his tribe and we should actually try to assist the Police Force to eradicate these criminals who are in our midst because whether you are a Mkamba, a Maasai or a Mkikuyu and you are a criminal, you will remain one. I must thank the Police Commissioner for a job well done. Also, I must thank the public for the co-operation they are giving the Police Force. I must also thank the Opposition because of late they have started seeing some sense when the Government does the right things.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Health is another Ministry which needs to put its house in order. If you now go to the rural areas, all the Medical Officer's of Health who are supposed to take care of the district hospitals, they have opened their small clinics here and there. More attention is now being given to their clinics than to the Government hospitals. Surely that is very unfair to the public. You have an option to resign and go and operate your own clinic or stick to your job as a civil servant but quite a number of them have now turned to looting our own hospitals. There are shortages of drugs countrywide in Government hospitals. I am saying this because I have got a problem in my own district of Kajiado where an MOH has opened a clinic in town and he tells you "Okay, can you see me in my clinic after 4.30". That is very unfair to the public.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, education is another area which needs to be looked into. I think it is high time we addressed ourselves to this area. Now that the East African Co-operation has been formed, we will actually reap more from it if we have got more educated people because we have been peaceful since

Independence. If we have educated people we can actually export knowledge to these other countries. We should take this opportunity to make sure that we give our children the best education we can.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming to the general welfare of Kenyans we are a very good people, but there are a few bad eggs among us who are spoiling our good name. Why do I say that we have a few bad eggs? This is because you will find that if I go to my area now and start inciting people, they will cause problems but if I preach peace they will definitely be peaceful. May I request our friends in the Opposition not to look at KANU as an enemy because they are enjoying security and safety simply because KANU has provided that security. They are getting whatever they want in this country simply because the KANU Government has facilitated them to get what they are getting. When you go to some countries, you cannot get a glass of milk or anything else that you require. Tanzania is now getting soap from Kenya simply because the other day the border was opened.

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 the Presidential Speech which he gave when Parliament was opened this week.

Various speakers have spoken here before in terms of party politics that we are engaged in, in this country today. It would appear that it is going to take a long time for some people in this Government to realise that multi-party is here to stay. The saddest thing that we see today is leading Government Ministers, especially some leaders particularly from Central Province, who consider themselves point men and who go around the province trying to "buy" councillors to defect to KANU. They tell lies, as a previous speaker said, that Central Province is softening up to go back to KANU. These people, in my own opinion, have no serious political agenda and their agenda are their own stomachs. The question is: Where and how can an individual every weekend or every other two weeks be able to raise over one million shillings and go on dishing it around and condemning the Opposition in this country? They say that the Opposition, particularly in Central Province, has done nothing since KANU came to power. Let me say this: if it were not for the Opposition, a lot of things in the Government would have gone wrong in this country today. The liberalisation of the economy that we see in this country today has come about because of the efforts of the Opposition Members of Parliament.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me state that this country depends on its agricultural sector and we are disappointed, as a previous speaker said, that the tea sector in this country, and particularly in Central Province, is being degenerated and abused to a point where it is almost being destroyed. Infrastructures are non-existent. At the end of the day you see the tea and coffee farmers paying various amounts of money that is taken by the Government, the local authorities and District Commissioners who in turn do not help these areas to improve their infrastructures.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker Sir, I would urge the Government to ensure that the cess that is deducted from these farmers is given back to those areas in order to improve their infrastructures.

Other speakers have talked here about the issue of security and the attraction of foreign investors in this country.

Let me say this, that as long as we refuse to allow total democratization of this country, and total respect for human rights, it is going to be extremely difficult to attract foreign investors. I would like to say that I do support the effort that is being made by the Government to crack down on the crime in this country. But let us urge those who are in charge of security, instead of shooting at random those criminals, let them try to arrest them. Instead of killing them on the spot, arrest these criminals so that they can be brought to court and reveal to the country and the Government who are their other associates.

The other area, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I consider that would also help this country to reduce unemployment is the area of employment of the youth. There are many young people in this country especially graduates who are unemployed. I believe that unless the Government finds a way of creating employment for these young people, insecurity in the country will continue to increase. In his Speech, the President said "Tribalism and corruption are inter-related". I am not sure whether I agree with this reference and if I do agree, I can only say that, if tribalism relates to corruption, it can only relate to corruption because so many people who are not properly qualified have been given institutions, parastatals and Government offices to run. These are the people who are heading corruption in this country. We have seen very massive corruption in the Kenya Ports Authority where millions and millions of revenue have been stolen by the people there. We want transparency in the Government; we want accountability in the Government because only these can help this country.

The other point I would like to raise, and I do agree with the President is that, despite the different parties that we belong to, we all are Kenyans and the fact is that we all want to see peace and stability in this country. That is a common ground on which we can all meet and agree. In my own view, I think this country must borrow a leaf from South Africa in introducing a government of national unity because in my own view, a government of

national unity will help every Kenyan community to be participants in their Government. Because tomorrow what will happen when KANU loses to the Opposition, is that various communities on the other side will be locked out of that Government. I believe if the President can help to form a government of national unity and bring about reconciliation, that way we shall be sowing the seeds of future stability of this country and the stability of our children.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other observation I would like to make is to support the efforts that have been made by our three Presidents of East African countries - Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania - for recently having revived the East African Co-operation. The regional community from the point of view of the economic activity is extremely important and I believe that cohesion and interaction among our people is even going to reduce corruption in various countries within the region because our people can now move freely and do business within this region. I would like to add that, let us very soon constitute the East African Assembly whereby each country will be able to appoint a Member of Parliament to represent their country in an assembly that is for all the three countries. Because this way, these leaders and politicians will help to harmonise the economic development, the political development and to ensure that never again will the East African community be destroyed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other area that has been touched on is the question of the current election of Maendeleo ya Wanawake that is going on. It is disappointing. I remember yesterday an occasion where I was with the KANU Secretary-General and I find it very difficult to believe that people who are in the Government as Government Ministers instead of bringing reconciliation, are interfering with the running Maendeleo ya Wanawake elections.

With these few remarks, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Speech.

The Assistant Minister for Transport and Communications (Mr. Morogo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Presidential Speech. First I would like to sympathise with hon. Murungi who thinks that because the Presidential Speech lasted about 12 minutes, it ends there. May I inform him that he is still very far and he may not even get there. This reminds me of a saying in my community of the hyena that kept on following somebody who was walking and on seeing his hand swinging back forth and thought it was about to fall so that he could catch it. Let me assure hon. Murungi that His Excellency the President is there, and is there to stay. He can wait for that long time; maybe his son but not he himself.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also wondering what kind of unity the hon. Members on the other side keep talking about. They say we cannot work together. One wonders how they can expect us to work with them, how they can expect us to invite them to work with us when they cannot work together themselves. What we are seeing today in this country is amazing. The Members of the Opposition have from time to time talked about liberalization, a good country, a strong nation and much more. But what is happening today is a very clear indication that the kind of leaders we have there are self seekers. They are fighting not for the interest of Kenyans and not for the interests of Kenya but for their own interests. Everyone is fighting hard to get to State House. Once again I might remind them that, that prerogative belongs to the people and however hard they fight for it, they may not get there. It is wananchi who will decide who gets there.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya is yearning today for patriots. This country wants people who can turn it from a developing country to a developed country. We have seen other countries where that kind of trend has happened in a period of ten years. This is the kind of language I would like to hear in this House. It is not the language of tribalism, where we hear one like hon. Mulusya stand up and talk about Kambas forgetting that Kenya is made up of about 42 other tribes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let us talk about patriotism. Let us talk about our economy. Let us discuss how we can make our Kenya a better Kenya in the shortest possible time. What we should be looking at is how we can better utilize our resources. We have the resource we need, we have the human resources. We have the natural resources that our God has given us. These are the things we should be discussing here; how we can best tap them. So that we can help our people to prosper, so that we can improve our economy and create employment opportunities for our people. It is not good to sit here from 1992 to 1997, talking nothing but corruption. If we are talking about corruption, let us pass a law in this House that will penalise those people who give bribes. Many a time we tend to think that the offender is that person who receives. Let us pass the law that can punish the person who gives bribes. All the time we talk of these things and we are not doing much about it. The Government has taken tough action and we have seen what it is doing, and we should appreciate it, and we should assist. Each one of us should assist in as far as possible so that these things are wiped out. We can talk about them day in, day out, but that will not help.

Again, we talk of the implementation of Government policy. This Government has got good policies for

this country. This Government has done everything possible to uplift the living standards of our people. We have the problem of the implementation of some of the promises of the Government, and this cannot be blamed on the Government alone. The fact that it is in power does not mean that it is the one that is not implementing these policies. This is because the kind of people we have in the Civil Service represents all people in Kenya. We have Opposition sympathizers in the Civil Service, and these are some of the people who derail the smooth running of the Government. These are some of the people who delay the implementation of those policies that the Government has put in place for the proper running of this country. And so, it is not good to simply blame the Government all the time. I think what we should do is simply to talk about how we all can put our country in order. That is to say we have to kick out those who are sabotaging the good intentions of the Government.

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

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

I would like to commend on the Kenya Police force for the good work it is doing at the moment. They have tightened the security and I wish to commend them for that. Some people keep on attacking the police force; they say that they should not bring robbers to court. Sometimes it is very difficult and we must appreciate the problems that the Kenya Police face because they are dealing with thugs. They are dealing with criminals; they are dealing with people with sophisticated arms. So we should not attack them but rather compliment them when they are doing a good job for all of us, so that we can perhaps be safe and deliberate on our matters safely.

On democracy and human rights, I tend to think that we in Kenya have our democracy; we in Africa have our democracy, except that some Members think that democracy is only democracy when it is exercised the Western way. Africans have their own system of democracy. We in Kenya have enjoyed our democracy, the Opposition is there and it has its place. So, this is democracy at work. What I am trying to say is that we can enhance our own democracy; what we think is good for our people and not simply sing to the tune of people who like telling us that "you do not have democracy" when we know we are okay with the kind of democracy that we have.

I do not want to conclude without highlighting some of the problems that my constituents face. I would like to invite the hon. Ministers of the Government to visit my constituency and see the problems my people are faced with. We still have problems with the communication network, very poor roads, and this is the time when everybody wants to go to school; this is the time when everyone wants to come to town to get something better for himself or for herself. And I would urge the Ministers to visit my constituency with a few to see what they can do to assist my people. We need many other things, like dams and boreholes. These are some of the things we need and I would urge Minister to visit my constituency so that some of these problems can be alleviated. Problems are better solved when they are well understood, and the only way to appreciate them is to visit that area and see how the people suffer.

Lastly, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I would like to urge the hon. Members once again to desist from tribal talk. Let us desist from our narrow interests. Let us think internationally; let us think of how we can make Kenya compete with the rest of the nations of the world in education, economy and so on, so that we can uplift the living standards of our people.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Orenge: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to make a few remarks. Before I make remarks about the Presidential Speech, I wish to start by saying something about the state of roads in my constituency. The state of the roads in Ugenya is appalling and there has been no improvements of the roads in my Constituency for a considerable period of time, despite allocations which have been made to the District to maintain the roads. Areas in West Ugenya, East Ugenya, Rue and Northwest Ugenya are almost all the time inaccessible because the roads are in a total state of disrepair, and I am urging the Minister concerned to do something about the state of the roads in my constituency.

Now, turning to the Presidential Speech, it has just occurred to me that this was the 18th Speech that the President was making during the State Opening of Parliament. And probably hon. Kiraitu Murungi would understand that 18 Speeches are rather too long and if we are going by the current Constitution President Moi should not be the President today because if the Constitution were to be read strictly, I believe that he did not qualify to be the President.

But in any case, I think it is getting to be too long for one person to address this issue. I think His

Excellency the President has read similar speeches on 18 occasions and it is high time that he took thoughts next time around. If the KANU Ministers and Members of Parliament were behaving a little bit better, they would have encouraged the old man to take a little rest, but most of the time they are singing songs of praise. You know, when an old bull is praised all the time, it is totally unconscious of its age.

It is high time they changed this practice of giving praises. The President asked for this job and he has to do the job. If he cannot do it, we will continue to criticise him for what he has not done and I believe that the praises are just too much and you have to think twice about it. Mr. Temporary Deputy speaker, Sir, looking at this Speech, what the President read out as achievements of this Government cannot really be considered to be achievements. In fact, if you seriously analyze what the President said in this House, there are things that this Government has undertaken out of pressure not out of initiatives of this Government. An example of this is the Economic Reform Programme. This is not the initiative of this Government. It is because of poor management and corruption that you have put the economy of this country under receivership. You have to go to Paris and get the World Bank working behind the doors in the Treasury to make sure that the long hand of KANU is kept in check because if they are not, the money goes all the time. Sometimes I wonder how this happens. We have the example of an incident that happened at the Mombasa Port. Entering the Port even for a Member of Parliament is not easy. Trying to enter the Port of Mombasa is very difficult. When the police hear that there is chang'aa being brewed in some little place in town or in the rural areas, they get there very fast, but 2,000 cars can get out of the Port without the police seeing them at all! So, this raises several questions to the Police, Administration and the Ports Authority. What has been going on there is a reflection of the sickness in this Government. This Government should not praise itself for the Economic Reform Programme. It is just that it had no alternative but to adopt it.

The second issue was about the East African Community. I am surprised that the President could say that it was because of the wise leadership of the three leaders of the region that this happened when there has been constant pressure even to appoint the Secretary-General to the Community. A mere appointment has been a problem. This process in Arusha two or three weeks ago could have taken place last year, but because this Government does not really believe in regional co-operation, they had to be pressurized to make that decision.

It is quite clear that they are acting on corruption because of pressure and not because they have really believed that this is the right thing to do. So, as we begin 1996 and the elections probably maybe round the corner because the President has the prerogative to dissolve this Parliament, this Government should ask itself what it has achieved because you are the people who were given the mandate by the people of this country to govern this country and to make life better for the people. What have you achieved? What is the record of the KANU Government?

Looking at the area of the Constitution and the law, we have a situation where the Attorney-General here promised that he was going to bring Bills before this House, amend or repeal certain repressive laws. Right from the beginning when hon. Muite moved a Motion here to look into the Detention Act, we were promised that there was a Task Force looking into the detention laws with a view of repealing them, but these task forces have ended up either by not achieving what was promised or the Attorney-General has brought Bills into this House which were quite contrary to what we were told this Government was out to achieve. The Bills that were withdrawn, for example, the Political Parties Bill, the anticipated Press Bills and so on, show quite clearly that we truly do not believe in democracy and the process of democratization. I read an article by one of the local journalists, Emman Omari, where he reminded us that President Kaunda today is an activist in Zambia trying to make that country change the laws that refuse to change. It looks like come next year or the year after, many people on the other side of the House will be crying for the new Government of the Opposition to change some of the laws that will refuse to change, but I can tell you that the Opposition will achieve the process of constitutional reform within a timetable that would not require any kind of political activism because we are committed to constitutional reform and constitutional change in this country.

I do not know what the difficulty is about bringing about a constitutional reform or have a convention where we would express our views about what type of changes we want in order to create and establish a truly democratic country. Despite promises made in the past again about constitutional changes, nothing has been done by this Government. I want to say that this year, this Government is going to feel the full weight of the Opposition and of the Kenya people. They will ensure that we have either constitutional convention with or without your participation because in history, such conventions have been held despite the existing authorities and have brought about changes in spite of the reluctance of the ruling class. You will realise that the wheel that you are turning is going to turn you so fast that you will not know where you are. So, I hope that the Attorney-General will remedy this situation within this Session. If he does not, then this full impact of the Opposition is going to be felt by the Government.

With those few remarks, I beg to oppose.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to begin by saying that, in congratulating His Excellency the President for his Speech, those of us in Government have come to realise that we can never expect anything good to be said of the President's Speech by the Opposition. I have come to believe that the speeches on the thanks to the President's Speech by the Opposition are written long before the Speech is written. I have come to believe that, in every Opposition desk, there must be a speech written to memorize criticizing the Speech of the President even before the Speech is written.

It is absolutely difficult to comprehend what kind of things the Opposition will ever say are good. When the speech is long, they say it is too long, when it is short, they say it is too short. We have come to live with that and we know that it is an Opposition's style and an Opposition gimmick. The Speech was a good one.

Before I proceed on that note, early this week, there was carried in the *Daily Nation*, a story attributed to a man called Francis Ng'ang'a of the Kenya National Union of Teachers. That story said that hon. Sunkuli is responsible for the transfer of non-Maasai teachers from Trans-Mara. I want to say that, first of all, that kind of thing is too much below me. I am not a tribalist and I cannot involve myself in that kind of tribalistic act. What is happening is that Mr. Francis Ng'ang'a has not done his research. He has not realised that no non-Maasai teacher or any teacher at all has been transferred from Trans-Mara of late. That, in fact---

Mr. Gitau: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the Assistant Minister to attack Mr. Ng'ang'a, who is actually my voter, and who is not able to defend himself in this House? He should write to the Press and respond accordingly.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Gitau, if you understood and followed what hon. Sunkuli was saying, he has not attacked anybody!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am going to say that Mr. Francis Ng'ang'a should look for something else to talk about. As it has been clearly stated here, these professional organisations are now being used by the Opposition. It is absolutely wrong for a man who is claiming to represent a union of teachers to come up with a story that has no basis at all. I am saying that now that the Opposition has over-used the Law Society of Kenya they are now moving on to the Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT), but it is absolutely wrong for them to do so. Let the KNUT serve the interests of teachers and those of the Opposition.

That said, I would like to say that I was glad to hear during the last long recess the Opposition saying of themselves the kind of things we were saying of them just last year. I am very glad to hear from gentlemen like hon. Raila Odinga describing the Opposition as selfish persons, whose road to State House will never be successful. There is absolutely nobody in the Opposition who believes in democracy and multi-partyism. What we are hearing today is that people want a coalition government. When you say that you want a coalition government, what are you saying? You are actually saying that those gentlemen over there and these gentlemen here should be one thing, and that one thing should be the government. The Opposition want to disband themselves in order to be in the Government. What kind of coalition is there? Are they saying that there are any ideas that the Opposition have which they would like to contribute to the Government? There is no coalition of ideas. If they are saying that they want every tribe to be represented in the Government that has already been done. There are in the Government Maasais, Kikuyus and Luos. There is practically everybody on the Government side. In fact, the best coalition that can ever take place in this country has taken place. That is the coalition of all the communities in our country; it is the coalition of all the shades of opinion and views in this country. There is---

Mr. Murungi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Assistant Minister in order to discredit the Government by saying that it is a coalition of tribes?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would not entertain sarcasm, but I am saying that everybody who ought to be represented in the Government is so adequately represented by Kanu. At any rate, what Opposition is prepared for a coalition here. There is nothing called an Opposition. In fact, there is an opposition against the Opposition. There is no united idea that the Opposition are holding to, that they think can serve Kenya better than the ideas that we are giving this country. When hon. Orenge says that next year there will be a Government of "FORD ya Kweli" - I am sure FORD (A) and FORD (K) parties are going to "die" - which of the Opposition parties has the ability to form a coalition with this Government? The Opposition parties have no ability to stand on their own as parties; nor do they have the ability to unite with a sensible Government like ours. Let the Opposition toy with the idea as to how they can continue to be disunited among themselves. We can never entertain the idea that, because they can longer survive as an

Opposition they want to be incorporated into Government. There is no particular reason why a coalition should ever take place in this country. At any rate, South Africa should never be quoted here as a good example of a coalition government. Although South Africans succeeded in the elections they are yet to pass the test of time. We have withstood the test of time for 30 years. South Africa is just a political baby that needs to be nurtured slowly. It needs to learn from examples like Kenya rather than for us to learn from it. They are just beginning on the path of democracy. I must say that the question of quoting South Africa as an example for Kenya to learn from is not in good faith.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one hon. Member has stood up here and laughed at the Government efforts to make sure that East Africa has a sound economic base. We were operating under nobody's pressure when we went to Arusha. In fact, we took the lead and explained our position last year as to why we did not accelerate these matters last year. We explained that a certain situation needed to be created and as soon as this was done we went into the co-operation. I am sure that when hon. Onyonka catches the Speaker's eye he will be in an even better position, as the Minister who was actually in charge of the process, to explain to the House why that slight delay had to happen. I hope hon. Kituyi will have occasion to praise the Government for the security measures that we have taken to ensure that Nairobi is a safe place to be in.

(Hon. Kituyi stood up)

I would not like hon. Kituyi to keep on standing up even before my time is over. He will have his own time to speak.

With those words, I beg to support.

Mr. Muite: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to begin my contribution to the Presidential Address by decrying the state of roads in the whole country and emphasising the very critical role that the road network plays in the economic development of any country. There is hardly any hon. Member who can stand up in this House and say that he is happy with the state of roads in his or her constituency. Our roads are wholly impassable.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Dr. Wameyo): I can do!

Mr. Muite: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Parliamentary language and etiquette forbids me to brand any hon. Member a liar. So, I am not going to say that Dr. Wameyo is a liar because saying so is unparliamentary.

However, our roads are in a deplorable condition at a time when out of the price of every litre of petrol one shilling is going to the Road Maintenance Levy. Where does that money go? Why is that money not spent on maintenance---

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Muite, have you accepted the point of information?

Mr. Muite: Yes, I have, Sir.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: We are actually paying Kshs2 per litre on top of the normal tax.

Mr. Muite: I thank the hon. Member for that point of information. You see that makes the position even worse and yet we are not even asking that every road be tarmacked. We will be quite happy if in a lot of areas quality murraming, drainage and levelling using a grader is done. The condition of our roads is a major contributing factor to accidents in this country. So, let us not be pious about the installing in matatus of these gadgets which are going to record the speed. Those gadgets are deliberately aimed at extracting money from people who can ill afford the public service vehicles. We are saying nothing about the major contributing factor to road accidents in this country, namely our poor roads, which are not maintained. Yet we are paying taxes.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Sunkuli): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to mislead the House that accidents happen on bad roads when it is, in fact, clear that accidents happen on good roads?

Mr. Muite: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this House, one assumes those hon. Members who have been through school up to the university level would follow what one is saying. I said that one of the major contributing factor to accidents in this country is the condition of our roads. I am saying that these gadgets that public service vehicles are being forced to install at Kshs70,000 is unfair. Who has found out the real cost of these gadgets? They are not going to reduce accidents in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other point that I would like to emphasise is on the state of security in this country, which again, has reached very alarming proportions. Nowhere in the whole country is

any Kenyan able to have a good night sleep without fear that they are going to be attacked in the middle of the night. This is happening particularly in the rural areas. I agree that in the urban centres, the hot-lines have had an effect, perhaps in getting a few of these criminals apprehended. But the countryside is at the mercy of these criminals. In fact, they no longer break the windows and the doors of a house. In the countryside, they remove the roof and they drop from the roof into the bedroom. This is a very serious matter because any Government which cannot guarantee the security of its own citizens has no business being in power. We are in the last frontiers of anarchy. The insecurity problem is everywhere in this country including here in the urban centres and it has reached unacceptable proportions.

What worries some of us is that in the countryside, one will get two or three Land-Rovers of policemen coming within a matter of minutes if an Opposition hon. Member is holding a meeting which the Government says it is unlicensed. In other words, this country is spending a lot of money on provincial administration and on the police in order to sustain this Government in power by nosing around and finding out which Opposition Member of Parliament or which individual Kenyan is holding a meeting without a licence.

The priority number one of this Government is to dispose gatherings and to ensure that peaceful Kenyans do not meet. They are not interested in the security of Kenyans. They are interested in ensuring that Kenyans do not meet so that corrupt as this Government is, it can sustain itself in power. That is why when Kenyans are robbed in the middle of the night and when the police are called, they take three or four hours to go, and even when they go, most of them will require to be given "tea" before they start investigations. Contrast that situation, with the situation where they are told the hon. Member for Imenti South is holding a meeting somewhere without a licence. Promptly, the provincial administration will be there together with the police. Why do we not come with similar responses when Kenyans are attacked? Why are we spending all this money on the provincial administration and the political police officers whose priority is actually to sustain this Government in power instead of looking after the interest of ordinary Kenyans? We have been told in His Excellency the President's Speech, about the Paris Club meeting and that a stamp of approval was given to us. These thuggeries and criminal activities have their root problem in the poverty that afflicts the majority of our people leaving below poverty line. The very high rate of unemployment in this country is also a contributory factor to insecurity and robberies and deaths that we are having in this country. We are not going to be able to create employment because of the money being pledged by the donors. Employment in this country is only going to be created through investments particularly by Kenyans.

An investment will never come into this country unless we actually embrace legal, political and constitutional reforms together with the economic reforms that we are implementing. I do not need to mention that even those economic reforms have not been embraced by the Governments. Those economic reforms are being implemented because hon. Members on this side of the House have been agitating for them and whether KANU Government like it or not, they have been told to implement those reforms. But now, we are just being told one side of the story. When the Minister of Finance comes back, he hardly wait to get out of the plane before saying that so many billions were pledged and they will be given to him. Is that the whole story? Was there no mention at the Paris Club about the political, legal and constitutional reforms which this Government should undertake in order to restore investor confidence in this country? Should we not be told as a nation whether this Government has accepted to implement those legal, political and constitutional reforms? This is because until we do that and increase the democratic space within which both KANU and the Opposition is going to operate, we will never be able to restore investor confidence in this country.

What one would have wanted to hear in His Excellency the President's Speech is a timetable as to when the Public Order Act is going to be repealed. That has to be repealed. Kenyans who are meeting peacefully and who want to interact with one another ought not to require any licence from anybody. This is an Act that was enacted by the colonial Government six days before the state of emergency was declared in this country. This is an Act in which if we had a free and independent judiciary, would have been declared by the judiciary to be unconstitutional as it has been declared in other countries which have independent judiciary like Tanzania and even Nigeria.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member for Imenti South, Mr. Murungi has just come back from observing elections in Sierra Leone where there is a military Government. The interesting thing is that even under a military Government, the citizens there merely need to inform the police 24 hours before they intend to hold a meeting and they do not require a licence.

With those few remark, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to register my disapproval of His Excellency the President's Speech.

The Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Dr. Onyonka): Mr. Temporary

Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this important debate.

It is unfortunate that I am taking the floor immediately after hon. Muite has been speaking about constitutional reforms and about the Chief's Act and the rest. I thought he had his heydays when he had so much influence over the former Attorney-General and he should have got that repealed at that time. What happened? I am asking a genuine question that at the time when he was so close to the former Attorney-General he should have influenced him to bring the necessary changes at that particular time.

Mr. Muite: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to make it absolutely crystal clear to hon. Dr. Onyonka that I have never been in the Cabinet of the Kenya Government. I have, indeed, never worked for the Kenya Government. Can he substantiate what he is talking about by saying that I was close to the former Attorney-General?

The Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Dr. Onyonka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he might not have been a member of the Cabinet, but I have reason to suspect that he was a member of the Kitchen cabinet.

Mr. J.N. Mungai: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. With all due respect, the hon. Member is becoming unnecessarily arrogant. He knows very well that he is out of order---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): What is your point of order?

Mr. J.N. Mungai: Is the hon. Member in order to impute improper motives on another hon. Member of this House?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! Order! I think the use of this phrase 'improper motives' has to be defined one of these fine days. All that hon. Dr. Onyonka said is that hon. Muite wielded considerable influence over the previous Attorney-General. He never said he was in the Cabinet. Carry on, hon. Dr. Onyonka.

Mr. Muite: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he should appreciate that I defended the then Attorney-General when he was unceremoniously kicked out of the Cabinet. That is when I became close to him: When I acted for him in the Commission of Inquiry in my capacity as a lawyer.

The Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Dr. Onyonka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Member for the interesting information; that he only came on the scene after changes had taken place. I used to think it was the contrary.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to take this opportunity to make a contribution to this interesting debate. First of all, I think it is important that we appreciate one thing. This country has had problems. But also, it is true that this country has realised some very substantial achievements. I find it difficult when an hon. Member stands up and says, "we have actually realised nothing, we have almost achieved nothing and whatever has been done, has been at the behest or under pressure from other people." We all know that, that is not true. We have had some remarkable achievements and we have also had problems. But, one important point which I would like to spell out here is that, the greatness of a nation partly lies in the fact that when it gets into problems, like an individual, it is able to stand up again and walk. If this country has had any problems, it has struggled hard to overcome these problems and has been able to make substantial progress thereafter. So, it is not a hopeless record. If one looked at the balance sheet, surely there is more on the positive side than on the negative side.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this connection, I would like, briefly, to touch upon the whole question of East African Co-operation. I would like to make it clear that I am a very firm believer in East African Co-operation. I think I have spent a good part of the last 20 years working on problems pertaining to the Community, and I thank the Government for having afforded me an opportunity to serve in that capacity. I believe that it is fair to say that when the three Presidents took a stand and made a decision to revive the former East African Community or to revive East African Co-operation, this was a very bold decision. They were, indeed, three brave Presidents and I will tell you why. Those of us who have been working in this area know that the problems and the issues that we have to grapple with, are enormous. They are, indeed, enormous because, we know from past experience, that unless they are handled with caution, you cannot preclude the possibility of running into new problems. In this area, as I pointed out, at least once before, very firm political commitment, irrespective of personality, is critical. The time has come when we would like to create a sort of co-operation that involves a totality of the East African people.

When the Community died, the rest of us spent months, if not years, trying to diagnose what went wrong.

If I were to read here a litany of what went wrong, hon. Members would be shocked. It was not an easy undertaking. It was an undertaking that needed to be handled with care. It was an undertaking that needed to be understood. It involved many intricacies which, in turn, involved lots of very deep-seated issues which required

very serious commitments and understanding. It is for this reason, and I am happy to say, that we have presently, in the region, Presidents who have had a chance to work with the East African Community before; who know what is involved. Our President has handled Community matters for quite a long time. President Museveni was a colleague of mine as a Minister for Regional Co-operation in the Community in those days, when we started the mediation exercise, and of course, President Mkapa was Minister for Foreign Affairs and had to handle Community matters from time to time. So, they know that they are getting into an undertaking that is going to have tremendous demands on their wisdom and commitment. This time, I am confident that building on past problems and experiences, we shall---

Mr. Munyasia: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is hon. Dr. Onyonka not misleading this House by claiming that President Museveni was, at one time, his colleague in the East African Community, when I know that by the time President Museveni ever came into the limelight in Uganda, the East African Community had already collapsed?

The Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology (Dr. Onyonka): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I take the opportunity to inform the hon. Member that, that is one thing he does not appear to know at all. President Museveni was the leader of the Ugandan delegation when we first met in Arusha to start the mediation exercise and he was Minister for Regional Co-operation under the second Obote regime, if he did not know. So, I am not misleading the House. That serves to show the hon. Member how quickly things can change in this region. So, I have reason to be hopeful that this time, we shall succeed. Our Government has done what needs to be done in this area. Of course, it has played the game rather cautiously, based on past experience. Caution is an important ingredient in building the new East African Co-operation. Given past experience, caution is an important element in building our new East African Community. It would be a dangerous thing to go about it rather carelessly or recklessly and then, fall into the same trap as we did in the past. I would like, in this connection, to congratulate the President for the measures already initiated to get the Community going.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also encouraged by the pronouncements of the other two Presidents at the inauguration ceremony in Arusha, which I had a privilege to attend. This is a great opportunity for the East African people. We cannot afford to go backwards at all. It is one of those situations where I think it is in order to say "forward ever and backward never". For in the final analysis, tiny countries on the map of the world have no future.

I would like to conclude my short remarks by simply pointing out that when it comes to things like roads, there is no need for us to argue as we all need good roads. Finally, I hope that those good roads will be forthcoming in the very near future under the KANU Government.

(Applause)

Mr. Munyasia: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. If I was asked, as a long-serving teacher, to grade this particular address, I do not know whether I would have given it more than 15 per cent. It would have failed. And the reason is that I do not find in this particular address anything that we can say that it is exposition of public policy and there is hardly anything we can call policy in that address.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we expected that the address would show the Government awareness of the problems that the people of this country are experiencing. I expected that the Government would give us the programme of who it intended to go about solving those particular problems. I was disappointed that at the end of the 12th minute there was nothing that I had learned as Government intention to solve the problems of the people of this country.

I want to give examples. As far as health is concerned, this Government, for instance, has realised that the workers, civil servants and teachers needed a little more medical allowance and they did increase that. I think they doubled it towards the end of last year. But they have not given thought to the common man who is not employed, they have never given thought to the family of people who do not have any employment or do not have any business. How are these people going to get access to medical treatment? This Government is bankrupt of ideas about how they can help the people of this country improve their health.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we were told that the economy had improved; that it had recorded some impressive growth, but I was wondering whether they were talking about the country that I know, the communities that I know or something else. I come from Bungoma where I know the farming industry has gone to ruin. The sugar farmers of Nzoia have been cheated from 1994, they have not had any payment for their cane. So, they cannot even take their children to school, they cannot meet medical bills for their children and for themselves and yet we are being told that the economy has now improved when there is a bill of Kshs 440 million

to pay and the farmers recently decided to withhold their cane from these ailing factories. I am surprised that I think only two days ago, in fact, local directors were cheated into a game urging farmers to deliver cane to Nzoia Sugar Factory. I do not know whether there has not been corruption. I suspect that money might have changed hands because I do not see how the directors could have cheated these farmers who have suffered for three years without payment. These farmers who cannot meet their basic economic needs again allowing this factory to get the cane before that particular debt has been paid is impossible.

Maize-farming has gone to ruin in that province again. So, when you talk of economy improving, I do not know for whom it is improving because my people do not realise it.

I expected that, that address would tell us about the state of our unemployment. So, if the economy is improving, if there is growth, is unemployment being reduced? Does the Government even know the magnitude of the problem of unemployment in this country? It flatters with the few ideas here and there. One time we were told that there was going to be a rural enterprise fund, and they were going to give loans to small businessmen or business group. That was given in 1992, the money was given to their friends and to KANU supporters. Upto now, the Government has not shown a will to collect that money and it was taxpayers' money. It has not shown a will to recover this money so that other people may benefit from it. I am wondering when they talk of corruption, do they know that they are the foremost as culprit in this particular thing called "corruption?" So, they should start with themselves so that rural enterprise fund money that was given out in 1992 to KANU supporters must be recovered so that it can also be given to other people to benefit.

Then they toy also with the idea of Graduates Credit Scheme. I was asking the banks the other day in Bungoma, "Have you ever received any money from this KANU Government to give credit to graduates who have failed to get employment?" They said "Hakuna", we have not received anything. So, what is this Graduate Credit Scheme that the Government is talking about as the way of solving the unemployment problem?

So, this is a Government that toys with ideas here and there and does not concentrate on any of them to see that it is fulfilled in any way. Is it aware of the magnitude of the problem of unemployment?

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is something else I wanted to talk about. Every time, we have been told by the year 2,000, every family would have got tapped water at the door-step. By the year 2,000, there would be electricity for every family. By the year, 2,000, and I expected during that address since the year 2,000 is only four years ahead, and since this "thing" appears so far from being realised, I thought this Government was coming up with some ideas, programmes about how they are going to meet this particular target. Is this Government going to meet any of the targets they have been promising our people? Absolutely nothing! That is why they did not even want to talk about it.

They have talked about corruption. I want to talk about Harambee and corruption. Have they worked out any system to follow these people who are holding Harambees every week and you hear of "Kshs 50,000, zangu na marafiki zangu pamoja na za Mtukufu Rais?" Have they worked out ways to see how this money actually reaches the people for whom it is meant? For example, at Yabeko Primary School in my Sirisia Constituency, last year, they organised Harambee and senior KANU members came around, and the Chief Inspector of Schools was the guest of honour. They raised some Kshs 728,000. That was good money for a primary school. The school committee upto now is asking for that money. The money has never been banked in any bank in Bungoma, not even on the school account. Where is this money? We are told that it has been brought to Nairobi to earn interest for those who officiated at the Harambee so that they get their money back and then they may surrender the balance. Is that how money for Harambee is going to be used?

There was also money raised for youth. It was referred as Sirisia Constituency Youth Development Fund. Some Kshs 420,000 was raised in October 1995. Upto now, no one knows where this money is? It is not on any account that we know of and not for any particular group. That money must be benefiting some other people. So, when we are talking of corruption, first, let us begin with how Harambee money is being used. So many Harambee are held and money collected and the money disappear for some time.

Until we put pressure, as we are now doing, the money will not come. So, I do not know whether, when that Kshs 420,000 for the youth development programmes comes, it will come with the interest that it has earned or it has been used to buy Treasury Bills and the interest distributed to other people. These are serious matters that this Government must address itself to, otherwise people are fed up seeing corrupt people coming around with a little money here and there and carrying out projects that will not benefit the people as a whole. I have one project in mind, and that is the Wandanyi-Wahaha---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetagula): Time up.

Mr. Munyasia: Mr. Temporary, Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks I beg to oppose.

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

Before I proceed, I must say that we are here for a purpose and the purpose according to the President's speech is to work as a unit for the good of none other than our children. For the last four years I have been in politics, I have seen a lot of things and some of them have amazed me so much. We have passed laws here for this country and even before, we had laws in this country. When I came to politics, I thought that as a law maker, we have to make laws that are supposed to be obeyed. These laws are supposed to be used in governing this country for the smooth running of our nation. Contrary to my expectations, it is amazing that laws are made for the few. In other words, regulations are made for the poor and those who do not belong to a certain system. Indeed, laws are made for women.

If I may refer to a few things that happen in this country. There are many, but let me dwell on one of them. His Excellency the President is the Head of the Government and he is the person who is supposed to set an example to this nation. He is the first person who is supposed to obey the laws that are passed by this House. Recently, the Government - I do not know where they got the money - bought an aircraft for the President. I think for the last 40

years, our President has never gone on leave. When this aircraft was bought, it was not meant to be a personal aircraft. This aircraft, which cost a lot of money was meant to serve the people of this country while serving the institution of the Presidency. Recently, the President went to Israel on a private tour. How come that he had to use the State's aircraft? Was it a personal aircraft? Although we have laws Government vehicles are being misused by Government officers to do their private businesses. I thought the President could set the example for the others to follow. Why did the President use this aircraft? Who authorised him to use the aircraft?

The Minister for Labour and Manpower Development (Mr. Masinde): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary, Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member does not seem to realise that the President is the President 24 hours each day, each week and each month. The President is always on Presidential duties wherever he is. When he went to Israel, even those who were able know that, he conducted a lot of official duties there by meeting the Prime Minister of Israel in his capacity as the President, but not just as Mr. Moi. He has also talked about us breaking and honouring the laws of this country. I think the laws of the country should be upheld.

Mr. Obure: Mr. Temporary, Deputy Speaker, Sir, since we pay the President a salary and that is the time he could have used it. When is the President going to use his personal money? That is the time he could use it.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! Order hon. Obure. You have been here for four years and I believe that you know what the Standing Orders say. You are flouting Standing Order No. 73 (i) and if you continue, I will cut your speech short. If you want to discuss the conduct of the President, you should bring a substantive Motion.

Mr. Obure: Mr. Temporary, Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to interfere with the laws of this House---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! It is not a question of wanting. It is a question of upholding the rules of the House. You have to abide by them or you do not.

Mr. Obure: Thank you, Mr. Temporary, Deputy Speaker. I am talking of the laws that have been infringed on in this country. I am sincerely talking on behalf of Kenyans and that is reason why I was elected to come to this House.

Recently, I encountered a very strange experience from the Police Force, where, a police officer of the rank of a corporal chased a lady purporting that he was arresting her. This incident took place during the recess and it surprised people in my constituency. The policemen are trained to handle the people with less force. It is known a known fact that I slapped a police officer and I am sure many policemen are going to be slapped on their faces in the future. Bamachoge is the only constituency in Kisii District which is in the Opposition. The policemen have been harassing my people by purporting to be looking for chang'aa and taking bribes. They take even hens and eggs. Policemen have raided Bamachoge Constituency on many occasions during the last recess. I have been consulting them on several occasions. I want to state here, as I have stated here before that I was elected by Bamachoge people to come and defend them against harassment by this Government. This Government has to stop harassing its own people. If it does not stop harassing my people I will not stop asking them including myself, to stand up and fight. When the police are using guns, we will use our teeth to fight against this Government.

They must stop harassing our people. We went to the Opposition to oppose the things that--

The Minister for Tourism and Wildlife: (Mr. Ngala): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order to encourage lawlessness in this country by saying that if the Government fights, they will use the teeth of their people to fight the Government?

Mr. Obure: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what do we do when Kenyans are being killed and harassed by the police? Who is going to help our people? Our taxes go to this Government. We are good and hard working people but why is this Government harassing us? You cannot force us to join KANU. If you want us to come to KANU then give us what we are asking you to give us but you cannot beat and whip us. To make matters worse you cannot come asking for bribes, harass our mothers and tell us that we join KANU by force. No, we cannot.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other point that I want to put across is the issue of unemployment. This Government has to address the issue of unemployment. There are very many young men and women who have graduated from universities who have no jobs.

QUORUM

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

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

(The Division Bell was rung)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): We have a Quorum now. You may proceed, Mr. Obure.

Mr. Obure: Another issue that should be addressed in this nation is the Pension Scheme. I want this Government to take this issue very seriously. People who are retiring from the Civil Service and the Teachers Service Commission are undergoing untold sufferings. I believe all these Members here will retire one day including me. When that time comes these Ministers will expect their pension scheme to work if God wishes. Today, as I stand here, hundreds of retirees from the Civil Service, and the Teachers Service Commission, have not received their pension. Why is it so? The Pensions Department should be decentralised because we cannot expect rural dwellers to travel all the way to come to Nairobi chasing their pension. Some of them have never even been to Nairobi! This Department should be decentralised so that retirees can be paid their pension at the districts and on time. This will enable them to pay school fees for their children because pensions are their last dues. They should not be made to spend hundreds of shillings coming to Nairobi to chase their pensions. I request the Minister concerned to look into that issue seriously.

With those few remarks, I support the President's Speech.

Thank you.

Mr. Mak'Onyango: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for according me a chance to contribute to this debate. From the outset, I would like to say that this is an important Speech which should have given a very clear picture of the state of the nation today. Unfortunately, the Speech lacks in substance and has avoided quite a number of current issues that really needed to be addressed. For one, I am really disappointed that the Speech did not say anything about political reforms. It only touched very briefly about economic reforms.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether we like it or not economic reforms will be determined by the policies of the day. It is of utmost importance that we should, in fact, be more concerned with the political reforms because once we have the correct political reforms, economic reforms are bound to fall into place almost automatically. I would have expected the President to, at least, come up with some kind of programme that would include the National Convention to address the Constitution reforms so that we can be able to draft a new Constitution that would reflect the multi-party system we have in this country today.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it would seem as if the Government is deliberately avoiding so central an issue as Constitutional reforms. Whether they like it or not somehow this issue will have to be addressed. I am sure before we address Constitutional reforms a lot of our efforts are bound to be reduced to nought because a lot depends on this issue. I would really would have liked to see the President come up with details or some kind of programme regarding the Constitutional reforms. It is a pity that it has not been done. I think it is high time the Government seriously addressed the issue of the National Convention. We do need to address, as the President did say in his Speech, the need for both the Opposition and the Government side to act in unison on matters of national interest. I do think the Constitution of this country is priority number one and, therefore, having a National Convention to address that issue and come up with a kind of Constitution that would address the pressing issues in this country today is a matter we cannot escape from, come what may.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also have liked to see the President address crucial matters such as education. Education is a matter of great concern because as we speak here today, many parents cannot afford to pay school fees. Sometimes back, the Minister for Education came up with what appeared to be a kind of fees structure for schools in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are tired of the Government and the Minister for Education for making pronouncements which are never honoured. For one, the Minister did indicate that schools in different parts of the country will be paying a certain amount in school fees. As we speak here now, almost every headmaster in the country has flouted that. No headmaster seems to be going along with the school fees structure as announced by the Minister. So, the Minister has taken this country and this House for a ride saying one thing when what is being practised is quite the other. We must be told who is really going to decide. Is it the Minister the headmasters or headmistresses of schools? If the Government has given out a programme or a schedule, the Government must see to it that, that schedule is complied with.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to raise the question of health. As we speak here, the other day the Ministry of Health came up with what to me appears to have been discriminatory. In that, there was supposed to be some kind of cleaning up of some private clinics in the country which were alleged to have been involved in some kind of scandals or some funny deals involving colossal sums of money from the National Hospital Insurance Fund. As a result of this, the Ministry of Health did place down a staggering 40 private clinics in Western Kenya and Nyanza; mostly Nyanza. At that time the Minister did say that this was going to cover the whole country but up to now, apart from the 41 private clinics in Nyanza and parts of Western Province that were closed, no others have been closed. So, the Minister should come and tell us the truth. I feel that this was a discriminatory exercise meant mainly to undermine health care in that part of the country. This is an exercise that I am sure covers the whole country and if some action was being taken, it should have affected the whole country and not just a part of the country. So, the Minister for Health should come and tell us why he found it fit to close down private clinics in Nyanza and has done nothing elsewhere in the country. It would appear as if he has discriminated against that part of the country.

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

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this Speech, the President spoke of the need to increase or to attract more investment in this country. I could not agree more, but in attracting foreign investment or whatever investment in the country, our primary concern should be that there is going to be equity in the use of these investments. The Government has the capability; the power to direct investment. What has been going on has shown a great deal of inequity in that, factories have kind of sited in certain areas and not others. This has led to disparity in the development of the country with some areas having better benefits than others from the investments while other parts of the country have virtually ended with nothing. The result has been a situation in which parts of the country are suffering from a serious brain drain; from a serious economic drain and so on. This comes about because if you site all the factories in Mombasa, Nairobi, Eldoret and so on, now other areas suffer in educating their people. After they have educated these people, instead of these areas benefiting from the people they have educated they suffer because these people are forced to go and work in far places and in the process all their earnings end up being spent in those distant areas leaving their places of origin without any economic returns.

So, I do think that for the sake of ensuring equitable distribution in development, the siting of industries should be done in such a way as to ensure some equity so that there can be even development throughout the country.

I would also want to make some mention of the sugar industry. It was quite a relief that the Minister for

Agriculture found it fit to ban importation of sugar and I do think that, that was the right move and it is my earnest appeal that the unbanning be reconsidered so that there is a permanent ban on importation of sugar because sugar remains one of the major industries in this country and the only way that the industry can be sustained, is to impose some kind of import restrictions so as to enable our own sugar industry to grow. As of now, we should be having three or more sugar factories in this country. Their future is at stake because of the importation. In order for these factories to be realized, the ban on sugar imports should be imposed and should be in place.

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

The Minister for Tourism and Wildlife (Mr. Ngala): Asante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi ili nami niungane na Wabunge wenzangu katika kumshukuru Mhe. Rais kwa hotuba rasmi aliyoitoa katika ufunguzi wa Bunge hili. Nataka nimtolee shukrani Mhe. Rais kwa hotuba hiyo ambayo ilikuwa ni nzuri na iliyokuwa na mwelekeo wa kulisaidia taifa hili kwa sehemu nyingi ambazo ni za muhimu katika utaratibu wa kuongoza nchi hii kwa mambo fulani.

Ningetaka pia niseme kwamba, nilishuhudia hali ambayo ilikuwa ni ya heshima katika Jumba hili wakati wa ufunguzi wa Bunge hili. Nafikiri tumekuwa na visa ambavyo tumeona mara nyingine kwamba, upande wa Upinzani huwa hawapendi kuiheshimu Ofisi ya Rais. Lakini safari hii niliona hali ambayo ilikuwa ni nzuri, ya kukaribisha na kwa kusikiza kwa makini na kuonyesha kwamba tunaiheshimu Ofisi ya Rais katika nchi hii. Kwa hivyo, hali hii ikanipa mawazo ya kwamba, labda ile hali na desturi za Bunge hili sasa zitakuwa ni zile desturi ambazo zinakubalika katika namna ya kuweza kukaribisha mtu wa cheo cha Rais katika shughuli kama hizi za ufunguzi wa Bunge kwa sababu, mara ya mwisho tuliona waheshimiwa wengine wakiwa na hali za kutoonyesha nidhamu. Kwa hivyo, hilo jambo lilinitia furaha sana.

Nataka niseme ya kwamba katika Hotuba ya Rais, jambo ambalo lilionipa nguvu na ambalo nataka nijaribu kuongezea maoni yangu juu yake ni neno hili la amani katika nchi ambalo linatajikana sisi kama viongozi wa Bunge tuweze kulizungumzia kila mara na kuweza kuhakikisha kwamba raia wa nchi hii wanawekwa katika kufahamu kwamba, amani ni muhimu sana katika nchi hii ili mambo mengi yapangwe na kuweza kutengenezwa kwa niaba ya raia wa nchi hii. Kwa hivyo, kutokana na matamshi ya Rais, kwamba ni lazima viongozi wa Bunge hili katika pande zote mbili za Serikali na Upinzani, ziweze kufahamu kwamba amani ni muhimu na kwa hivyo, lazima tuhakikishe kwamba hatuzungumzi mambo mengine nje ya agenda hiyo ya amani ili tuhakikishe kwamba wananchi wetu wanaishi bila shida. Kwa hivyo, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nataka niunge mkono kikamilifu, mia kwa mia maoni, hayo kwa sababu hayo tu ndiyo yatakayoweza kufanya nchi hii kuheshimika, yatakayoweza kuleta maendeleo katika nchi hii. Hayo ndiyo yatakayoweza kufanikisha maendeleo ya nchi hii, tukiweko na amani. Pia nataka nijaribu kuunga mkono na pia kutoa shukrani kama wenzangu ambao wameisha toa shukrani kwa wale marais watatu, ambao wamekubali kwamba yafaa kuwe na uhusiano kati ya nchi hizi tatu, Kenya, Tanzania na Uganda ili ziweze kurudiana tena na kuweza kuwaleta watu pande zote pamoja ili kuweza kuwapa mwangaza na matumaini, katika maisha yajayo; kwamba wanaweza kufanya kazi na kuweza kuingiliana tena. Hili jambo nafikiri lina faida kubwa kwa sababu hapo mbeleni kumekuwa na wasiwasi katika hali za vitendo and mienendo ya raia; kwamba pengine walikuwa hawaaminiani, kwamba huyu atafanya kitendo ambacho kitaleta fujo, na umwagaji wa damu. Kumekuwa na mambo kama hayo, lakini hivi sasa ikiwa marais hao wameona mwanga, ya kwamba ni lazima watu wetu tuwaweke pamoja, ni lazima watu wetu tuwape imani na waweze kupendana, na waweze kufanya biashara pamoja, hilo jambo litakuwa la faida kubwa. Kwa hivyo, hilo ni jambo la kutilia maanani sana.

Pia kuhusu hali za rasilmali, hali ya kuondoa wasiwasi katika kutafuta zana za vita, katika kutafuta chochote ambacho ni cha kujiweka katika hali ya tahadhari, kwa sababu hujui jirani hana mawazo gani, kukiwa na huo umoja, basi shughuli kama hizo, zitakoma na zile pesa au mipango kama hiyo kuweza kugeuzwa na kuelekezwa katika maendeleo.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, pia nafikiri ni vizuri niweze kutoa shukrani kwa kikoa kilichokuwa huko Ufaransa, Paris; kile kilichosaidia na kilichotambua kwamba nchi ya Kenya sasa imefanya marekebisho mazuri, na kwa hivyo inashtahili kupewa misaada ya aina yoyote. Nafikiri jambo hili limetupa sisi ngazi mpya katika hali za kidunia, kwa hivyo tunawashukuru wale ambao walifikiria mambo haya ya kutusaidia.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, hotuba ya mhe. Rais ilikuwa pia imetilia mkazo sana juu ya umaskini, namna ya kuondoa umaskini, na namna ya kufanikisha mipango ya maendeleo ili kutafuta jawabu kwa ukosefu wa kazi. Hili jambo limekuwa tatizo na tunaishukuru Serikali ya KANU kwa sababu inajaribu sana kupigana na jambo hili, kutafuta mipango, kutafuta njia, kutafuta maarifa ya vipi wananchi wa Kenya wanaweza kuandikwa kazi ili waweze kuondoka katika umaskini na kuweza kupata mapato ambayo yanaweza kuwasaidia katika mambo yao ya kila siku. Kwa hivyo, wazo lililowekwa katika hotuba hiyo ya kwamba uchumi wa nchi ujaribu kuumulika zaidi upande wa kuondoa umaskini na kutafuta kazi ili Wakenya wengi waweze kupata kazi, ni mpango mzuri, ni wazo

jema na bila shaka katika hali ya uchumi wa nchi hii, upande huu pia utakuwa wa kuwekwa maanani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mimi ni Waziri wa Utalii na Mbuga za Wanyama wa Porini, na nataka niseme kwamba kuna jambo moja ambalo linaleta wasiwasi katika wakati huu, kwa upande wa utalii. Hizi ajali nyingi za barabarani, niligundua kwamba pia nazo zinatia woga watalii, maanake watalii wakitaka kuja hapa, hawana uhakika kama watarudi nyumbani salama. Kwa hivyo, kama inavyosemekana, mara kwa mara, wakati ajali zinapotokea watu huwa wanaombwa wawe waangalifu katika barabara na namna ya kuendesha magari. Kwa hivyo, jambo hili la ajali nyingi katika nchi yetu nimegundua ya kwamba kumbe nalo ni jambo ambalo linawatia woga na wasiwasi wageni wanaotaka kuja hapa.

Tumekuwa na visa fulani fulani kama vile magari ya watalii kupata ajali na mambo kama haya. Kwa hivyo, tukifikiria kwamba ni ajali moja, kumbe zikitokea nyingi katika nchi hii zinawatia hofu watalii! Watalii hufikiria kwamba pengine hawawezi kutembelea Kenya na kurudi salama. Pengine katika ule mkazo unaofanywa na wanachama wa Road Safety Network, ungefaa pongezi. Tunawapongeza kwa kazi yao lakini kuna haja ya kila mtu ambaye ni dereva na ambaye ana haja ya kulinda nchi hii katika mambo ya barabara, aweze kuwa mwangalifu kwa sababu jambo hili linatudhuru pahali fulani. Tungetaka tuhakikishe kwamba watu wakija hapa, Wakenya na wageni wanasafiri katika barabara ambazo ni salama bila kuwa na wasiwasi. Kwa hivyo, jambo hili nimegundua kwamba lina matatizo na pengine litaweza kuchukuliwa maanani ili tuhakikishe kwamba tunaongeza idadi za watalii wanaokuja nchi hii kuleta pesa za kigeni na kwa njia hii kuweza kupanua mahoteli na mambo mengine.

Nikiwa hapa, pia ningesema sisi kama Wakenya tuweze pia kuunga mkono mambo ya utalii wa kinyumbani; domestic tourism. Paska inakaribia na mambo kama hayo. Sote tujaribu kuhakikisha kwamba tunatoa michango yetu katika mambo ya utalii na sio mambo ya wageni peke yao hata Mkenya aweze kufaidika na kuweza kutumia vifaa vilivyo katika nchi hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo machache, naunga kabisa mia kwa mia hotuba ya mhe. Rais.

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to speak about what has been called "exposition of public policy".

In my modest views, I will attempt to say that this is neither an expose' nor a document with any public policy. First of all, I want to thank the President for something he said towards the end of his expose'. He mentioned that he has now read different manifestos of the political parties and that he has recognized that they are seeking unity. That is contained in the fourth paragraph from the end of his Speech. I am glad that he has so discovered because I am hoping that his "hawks" who have been running wild attacking us for not liking unity have also been given an opportunity now to read that our manifestos define our determination to seek unity for this country.

Having said that, I appreciate that this Government has been going through a very difficult time. The Government has been going through a difficult time when it is busy trying to accommodate the views of the donors and potential donors and they have had to do a lot of speech-writing to assuage the fears of the donors that they will not keep on lying but, unfortunately, whoever was preparing the President's Speech substituted the speech on the opening of Parliament and the legislative agenda of the Government with a speech that rightfully should have been an after-dinner statement to the donor meeting because the core of this speech is a confirmation and rededication that we are going to do what we have promised to do on economic reforms. That statement is not for this audience. The only part of that statement about commitment of the policy framework which belongs to this House is a question about that commitment. It is a question, for example, as to why the Government prepared a statement of policy and within two weeks, it had already turned around on its commitment complete with debts on the privatization of the Kenya National Assurance Company. That is the only component of that statement which is relevant at the time of the opening of this House. Parliament is not a forum to celebrate disbursement of monies to be borrowed, part of which disbursement is really a pipeline pledged more than a year ago which has not been disbursed.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we are celebrating liberalisation of the economy we have to be ready to start questioning ourselves about some of the negative consequences of that liberalisation. One of the earliest areas to benefit from liberalisation, particularly from creation of export processing zones in this country, is the mushrooming of bonded textile manufacture. As national leaders, we should now be asking ourselves this: While the world is getting away from the free marketeering textile industry of the sweat houses of Latin America and South East Asia, what consequences has the export processing zone in the textile industry in Kenya had on labour? Today, if you go to Athi River and look at the textile manufacturing industry you will find the return of the slave houses of the 19th century textile industry in England. If this Government is talking about poverty it should start addressing itself about the fairness of the practices of the manufacturers under bond of the textile

industry in Athi River vis-a-vis the workers who are working there. We are only celebrating the fact that some people are investing there.

There has been a glib mention about corruption in this country. There has been a mention about fighting corruption in the Kenya Ports Authority. But, how serious are we in fighting corruption in this country? Why has this Government found it convenient to punish civil servants who can never say "no" to the well-heeled, who are the main godfathers of corruption, when none of those godfathers has been arrested. This House has listened ad nauseam to some of us demonstrating here about persons who are importing things duty free. For three years, I have been mentioning about Mr. Gideon Moi and second hand clothes being imported duty free. We have evidence about Messrs Gideon Moi and Philip Moi bringing into this country cars duty-free. Why are they not being followed? Only civil servants, who can never say 'no' to them, are being arrested.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Member on the Floor has just said that he has evidence to the effect that Mr. Gideon Moi is one of the most corrupt people in this country. Can he substantiate that?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will be very glad to substantiate that Mr. Gideon Moi is one of the people who have been involved in the scandals of importation of goods duty free into this country through the port of Mombasa. I will do that at the earliest time the Chair will give me. Secondly--

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think it is only fair for the hon. Member for Kimilili to substantiate his allegation right now. There is no question of doing so tomorrow because he knew what he was saying.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Dr. Kituyi, according to Standing Order No. 76 every one of you hon. Members is responsible for the accuracy of any facts which he alleges. Having been challenged by Dr. Lwali-Oyondi to substantiate, and bearing in mind that we should not attack members of the public who are not able to defend themselves here, you will either substantiate your allegation or withdraw it and continue.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Standing Order No. 76 does not say that an hon. Member is to substantiate immediately. I have had occasion to substantiate in this House about some other scandals involving Mr. Gideon Moi subsequent to my statement. If there is a new Standing Order which says that I should substantiate now, in which case I will not, then I will withdraw the allegation. But if the Chair sees it fit that I can substantiate next week I will show how Mr. Gideon Moi has been involved in fraudulent activities.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, Dr. Kituyi! Dr. Lwali-Oyondi, demanded a substantiation. Hon. Lotodo demanded it here and now. If you do not have it, I order you to withdraw your allegation and carry on.

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Dr. Lwali-Oyondi did not ask me to substantiate now; he only asked me to substantiate. By our tradition and Standing Orders I have no obligation to substantiate immediately. If the Chair asks me to substantiate next week I will show, in addition to what I have shown before, what I am talking about. But there are other things that I want to mention.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. At least the hon. Member is in a position to say how many cars this particular Kenyan imported without paying duty. He should be able to do that!

Dr. Kituyi: I understand the meaning of the English word 'substantiation' and I suppose that would have included the cars. It is my interest to talk about other thefts. So, for the time being, I will withdraw that statement, if it is in the interest of the Chair that I substantiate immediately. I will only make it after substantiating--

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order! Order, hon. Dr. Kituyi. The Chair has no interest in what you are saying, but it is the House.

Dr. Kituyi: Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Now, as a House--

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Dr. Misoi): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): He has withdrawn the remark. So, what is the point of order about?

Dr. Kituyi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to say that it is in the interest of this House that when vote taxpayers money for the Government to use, it is used as voted. This House has never allocated any money to the Office of the President to purchase an aircraft. If we are going to approve later an expenditures that has already been incurred, we are being turned into a rubber stamp Parliament. This Government has never explained to us why without requisition and consent from Parliament, it bought an aeroplane for the President.

I also wish to say that as a National Assembly, it is sad that none of the hon. Members of this House from this side has shown any outrage about the dumping of toxic waste in the port of Mombasa. In many societies, this is a matter that would have been a major matter of national concern that would have made it necessary for them to defer any business to discuss it. But today, we have not seen any serious statement from the Government concerning the action they are taking about the consignment of contaminated substances that are now lying in the port of Mombasa. It is a disgrace and a collective shame on all of us that this has happened and we have just hecklers who want to make fun when such a serious matter is raised.

Today, this country is in a middle of a crisis because management in our universities has collapsed. During the last Session, this House established a Loans Board with assumption that it was going to facilitate education at the university. Today, we are seeing students being thrown out and a lot of confusion in the management of the Loans Board. It is the responsibility of this Government, if it is the Government of the people, to bring a legislative agenda that will rise above the mistakes made in the past, and correct the crisis that is hurting students at the universities in this country.

I come from a neighbourhood where there is a sugar industry which is still controlled and managed by the state. We were shocked and surprised that the Government was ready to raise Kshs.1.6 billion to pay for money that has been stolen by people running a private company which is Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC), and the same Government has not found money to pay what it owes to sugarcane farmers for more than three years. Then, they come here and tell us to talk to each other and to become united. Even under fascism you can have unity, but we do not want unqualified empty unity in this House.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to join my colleagues who have spoken on His Excellency the President's Speech made on 26th March, 1996, here in this House.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, many of my colleagues, especially from the Opposition, have dwelt so much on the duration the President took to deliver his speech. I would like to tell them that what is important is not the time taken, but what was contained in the speech. I hope my colleagues will understand that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, about the security, it was 1994/95 when ambassadors and high commissioners were attacked by thugs in the city. This had never happened before in this country. I am, therefore, pointing a finger at the Opposition.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Can I now hear you, Mr. Nthenge?

Mr. Nthenge: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the Minister in order to mislead the House that the control of security is under the Opposition?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): He did not say that. He said he was pointing a finger at the Opposition.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. The hon. Minister has categorically said that he is pointing a finger at the Opposition for the atrocities committed against the various ambassadors here. Can he substantiate the implication he has just indicated on us?

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is on record. Just before the last general elections, hon. Paul Kibugi Muite, MP for Kikuyu did, say that if they did not win, they would make the Kenya Government ungovernable, and that is on record. What else do you want? Just a few minutes ago, one Member of Parliament from Kisii said, his people---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): There is no constituency called Kisii; he is from Bomachoge.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said Kisii District. This hon. Member said that his people are being harassed by the Kenya police.

It is not just true that everybody in that Constituency is being harassed. Maybe just a few criminals are the ones being harassed and chased by the police, left and right.

Also he said that he was going to tell his people to use their teeth to fight. Is that not inciting? Yet these are the people---

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: What has that got to do with the ambassadors?

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): That point is over as I have already dealt with it and I am coming to the second point. You people are responsible for incitement in this country. I think time has come for our colleagues across the benches over there to teach our people that we have to respect the law of this country at all times.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, one hon. Member from the same side talked about civil servants

who retired. People come and go, including Prof. Mbithi and Mr. Kilonzo and others.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister is just meandering. Can he substantiate the fact that the Opposition is behind the molestation and attacks on the ambassadors? Can he just substantiate that instead of repeating himself?

An. hon. Member: He has already substantiated.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my colleague from Nakuru Town is always behind news. I have substantiated.

(Laughter)

I was saying that people come and go. Mr. Kilonzo was once the Police Commissioner and he retired in the normal way, while Prof. Mbithi declined to take the post in Arusha. What was the Kenya Government supposed to do?

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, can the hon. Minister just---

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Is that a point of order?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Dr. Lwali-Oyondi, you are now becoming frivolous.

Dr. Lwali-Oyondi: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, he should withdraw.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, what should I withdraw?

Mr. Nthenge: That statement: That we are responsible for attacks on the ambassadors.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Order, hon. Nthenge!

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not in Kamukunji.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, my last point is about the Presidential Jet. I do not know what the Opposition Members are up to? A President of the country cannot be expected to travel by a passenger aircraft. They are asking where did the money come from. This is a Kenyan Airforce Jet. They have not seen the name there. The money must have come from---

Mr. Nthenge: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is it in order for the hon. Member to misquote the hon. Member who has just said that the problem is that a Presidential Jet was bought before the sanctioning of the House? He has put the story in a very different way.

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, that hon. Member has been here long enough. We have got---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Address the Chair, hon. Lotodo!

The Minister for Home Affairs and National Heritage (Mr. F.L. Lotodo): Yes, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am addressing the Chair, informing the hon. Member for Kamukunji that we have F5 fighter jets and so on. I am sure he has never seen it in our budget books. These are security operations and cannot be expected to be debated in the House.

With those few remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Development and Marketing (Dr. Maundu): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir for giving me this opportunity to make a few comments on the Presidential Address which I think, to a big extent, is interesting. It did, from the time we embraced multipartyism, draw a clear picture of the steps and the times we have passed through. It did, in a very specific way, show how we have transformed this economy from a centralised to a more liberalised economy.

I would say with all due respect that this is the speech of this year in the sense that this speech touched on every other aspects of our life as a country. This speech did give us the direction to which we should follow and more particularly when we are about to end this Seventh Parliament.

Issues of serious consequences like liberalisation of this economy and how it has affected the poor in this country have been addressed. As everybody is aware in this House and outside, the Government has put in place measures that can address issues on serious effects of Structural Adjustments.

What the President said was important that we in this House must work as a team, that is the Opposition and the Government. I must say so far, we have seen a situation where while we started in 1993, we are looking at the opposite directions. There has been a change of heart on both sides and now it appears that all of us are about to talk one language.

The cartoon I saw in the *Daily Nation* today was very, very clear in the sense that it did indicate that

while the Government is "clean and on track" to make sure that it takes into account all the facts that require improvement in this country, the Opposition is "fighting the dead" still and that remains to be the position.

(Applause)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am one of those who advocate for the existence and survival of the Opposition in this country, as good measure of check and balance. But, I would urge the Opposition hon. Members to do something about their house. If that is what they call a "house in order", they are unable to govern this country.

This is a country that everybody loves, hon Members and ordinary Kenyans. We would like to strive, as far as it is possible, all of us committed in every way, to make sure that this country has a future. We are fighting the President and the Government, but the people of this country are struggling to stabilise this country, to give this country a better economic position and that should be drive of all of us.

I think hon. Members when we are in this House, we surprise ordinary Kenyans who look upon us to give direction, who look upon us to instil a sense of discipline within our institutions in this country but, at the same time, we dwell on issues that are irrelevant in consequential and issues that will not take this country a mile further.

His Excellency's Speech has given us a great light. It was a torch bearer in dark corners and if we are serious within this Session to take the lead and pursue those objectives that His Excellency the President put in place, I believe by the time we end this Session, we will have achieved something for our country.

One area that has to remain to be of concern, more particularity in places that are arid and semi-arid areas like in Ukambani, is the issue of water. The issue of water has become a big problem and I am urging those particularity in the Ministry of Water Development to look into ways to harness water resources in seasonal rivers. There has never been a programme which we can say it is watertight. There has never been a programme which we can put our hands on to say that we are dealing with massive amounts of water in seasonal rivers. This is, I think, a way forward. If people in arid and semi-arid areas in Makueni, Kitui and in North Eastern are going to benefit and to avoid a situation of perennial shortage of food, I think, we must find ways and means to harness the seasonal rivers in those particular region. There is a lot of water that drains to the Indian Ocean without any particular irrigation. And this, of course, people watch in vain because they know in the next few months there will be famine in that land and yet they have lost this amount of water.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Wetangula): Hon. Maundu, you have a balance of five minutes to carry on Tuesday. Members, it is now time for the interruption of the business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until Tuesday, 2nd April, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.