

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday, 13th October, 2005

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 Report of the Departmental Committee on Administration of Justice and Legal Affairs on its deliberations on the nomination to the Kenya Anti-Corruption Advisory Board.

*(By the Chairman of the
Departmental Committee on
Administration of Justice and
Legal Affairs (Mr. Muite))*

NOTICE OF MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT ON NOMINATION
OF MR. OKONGO MOGENI TO KENYA
ANTI-CORRUPTION ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Muite: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:- THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Administration of Justice and Legal Affairs on the nomination of Mr. Eric Okongo Mogeni to the Kenya Anti-Corruption Board and the rejection of two members nominated by the International Federation of Women Lawyers, Kenya Chapter laid on the Table on Thursday, 13th October, 2005.

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

SHOOTING OF MR. SAMUEL SANG BY
NAROK COUNTY COUNCIL RANGERS

(Mr. Salat) to ask the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that Narok County Council rangers and Administration Police gunned down Mr. Samuel Sang while he was harvesting his crops at his former farm in the Mau area of Narok South?

(b) What measures has he taken to bring to book those responsible for the killing?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, Mr. Salat called my office and said that he will not be here! Is the Minister of State, Office of the President here?

Hon. Members: He is not here!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Therefore, I will defer the Question until Tuesday next week. Being a Question by Private Notice, I would not like to defer it beyond Tuesday next week.

(Question deferred)

SHOOTING OF MR. DOMINIC KARUTI

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

(a) Is the Minister aware that Mr. Dominic Karuti was shot dead by an Administration Police officer, Corporal Mugambi at the deceased's home in Kirima Village on the night of 16th July, 2005 in an unprovoked attack?

(b) Is he also aware that Corporal Mugambi was arrested and later released without any charges being preferred against him?

(c) What is the Minister doing to ensure that the perpetrator of this heinous crime is apprehended and prosecuted?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Dr. Machage): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg for the indulgence of the House to defer this Question for a few minutes because Mr. M. Kariuki is supposed to answer it. I am sure he is on the way coming.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Machage, I have said before that we cannot wait for Ministers. Therefore, Mr. Munya, what do you want us to do with the Question?

(Mr. M. Kariuki entered the Chamber)

Hon. Members: He is here!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. M. Kariuki, I have just called out your name!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I apologise to the House. I have just arrived from Nakuru.

Hon. Members: Selling bananas!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Yes, they are in high demand!

(Laughter)

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

(a) I am aware that Mr. Dominic Karuti died following an incident during which Corporal Mugambi of the Administration Police and his colleague, constable, Mr. Salesio Mbogo had gone to effect the arrest of Mr. Karuti.

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

This is a very important Question involving death, and yet I do not have a copy of the written answer to follow what the Assistant Minister is saying.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: What is the position, Mr. M. Kariuki?

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was under extreme pressure of time, but I have a copy of the written answer which he can look at as I respond.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. M. Kariuki, could you pass that copy to the hon. Member?

(Mr. M. Kariuki passed over a copy of the written answer to Mr. Munya)

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Munya! Let the Question be answered first! If there are other issues you can raise them later on.

Continue, Mr. M. Kariuki!

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am aware that Mr. Dominic Karuti died following an incident during which Corporal Mugambi, of the Administration Police force and his colleague, Constable Salesio Mbogo had gone to effect the arrest of Mr. Karuti.

(b) I am aware that Corporal Mugambi was arrested and later lawfully released on the direction of the Attorney-General for the matter to be dealt with by way of an inquest to allow for ballistic test to determine which gun had fired the shot.

(c) Following fresh information regarding the incident, the Attorney-General has reversed the decision to deal with the matter by way of inquest. Consequently, he has directed for the immediate arrest and prosecution of Corporal Mugambi in connection with the death of Mr. Karuti.

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Assistant Minister for that very good answer. However, I would like the House to note that it took the intervention of the Attorney-General to take action to prosecute a police officer who shot a villager in cold blood without any provocation.

Mr. Serut: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Incidents of police officers shooting innocent Kenyans are on the increase. In Mount Elgon Constituency, there are three to four cases where police officers have shot innocent Kenyans and yet no action has been taken against them. What will the Assistant Minister do to ensure that all those police officers who have been involved in the killing of innocent Kenyans are arrested and prosecuted?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said over and over again in this House that police officers are not above the law. If they are involved in murder or excessive use of force in effecting arrest, they will be prosecuted accordingly.

Mr. Mwanicha: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. My constituents have been under constant attack by armed robbers. In most cases, police officers have been suspected to have been involved in some of the robberies. We have handed over spent cartridges to policemen who tell us that they will send them to Nairobi for ballistic tests. How long does it take to test those cartridges to identify the guns and, therefore, look for the robbers? Is it useless to send the cartridges to Nairobi for those tests?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think that is a pertinent question because many of your answers relate to ballistic investigations going on forever! If you answer that question, it will shed some light.

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we do not have ballistic experts at the provincial level. The experts are only at the CID Headquarters. Those are the limitations that we have. If an incident takes place in Kisii, for example, they have to move the items to Nairobi for examination. The ballistic experts are quite busy because they are very few.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: But approximately, how long does it take for those tests to be done?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it takes between two weeks and one month for the ballistic report to be sent to the police station or to the province.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Last question, Mr. Munya!

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, given the fact that this is not the only incident where police officers have been involved in crime, and the Department of Police tries to cover up the matter--- You can recall the Cholmondeley case. Given the fact this was the incompetence of the

Attorney-General, could the Assistant Minister assure this House that he will recommend to the President to appoint a tribunal to investigate the conduct of the Attorney-General in view of the fact that this case and other cases have been brought before the House?

Mr. M. Kariuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member who is a lawyer is very much aware that the Attorney-General enjoys security of tenure. There is a constitutional process laid down to relieve him of his duties. If the hon. Member thinks that he has evidence that he could submit to the President relating to the competence of the Attorney-General, he is at liberty to do so.

FLAWS IN VOTERS' REGISTERS IN MOSOP

Mr. Sambu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that in all the 89 polling stations in Mosop Constituency, the voters' registers have flaws in the spelling of the names of the electors, their identity card numbers and the electors' numbers?

(b) How did all these flaws occur yet the voters registers were updated as recently as May, 2005?

(c) Could the Minister give specific assurance that electors (voters) who hold valid identity cards and electors' cards will not be barred from participating in the Referendum on 21st November, 2005?

The Assistant Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Mr. Githae): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware.

(b) The error related to the suspension of the digits arose due to printing errors of the registers as this was a massive exercise. Errors relating to misspelt names occurred due to human clerical errors when the voters were registered. In May, 2005, new voters were added to the registers while other registered voters applied to transfer their registration and others were deleted from the registers because they are deceased. Transcription errors may have occurred during this period.

(c) Where there is proof that a voter is validly registered, he or she will be allowed to cast a clear vote.

Mr. Sambu: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. When people collude or prepare to deny others their rights, God protects the innocent. I have a different answer which the Assistant Minister gave me just a few minutes ago. In part "a" of the answer the Assistant Minister has given the House, he has said that he is not aware. Could I read out a copy of the written answer he gave me a few minutes ago? This is because he has given this House a different answer from the one I have here. Could I read it out quickly?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Sambu, just before you do that, Mr. Assistant Minister, do you have two sets of answers?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to retract what I have said because we obtained more information later on. So, the answer I gave the hon. Member earlier on was prepared before we received the additional information. With the indulgence of the House, let me read out the latest answer which I got as I came here.

Dr. Godana: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. This is a serious matter and it is obvious the Assistant Minister does not know what answer to give. If only moments ago he gave one answer to the Questioner, and now he is telling us that he has a different answer, would I be in order to ask him to go back and bring one answer?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I got confused when I was giving the answer,

because I thought that he already had the written answer. This is a normal human error and I am sure---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Githae, are you saying that you are withdrawing the answer you gave earlier and you now want to answer the Question again?

Mr. Githae: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to withdraw the first answer and I have the latest one here.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Carry on!

Mr. Githae: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I beg to reply.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Boit! I have already given the Assistant Minister the Floor, unless you want to overrule me.

Mr. Boit: No, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I just want to---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: What is it?

Mr. Boit: Would I be in order to ask the Assistant Minister to apologize to this august House?

Mr. Githae: Indeed, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have apologized.

Dr. Godana: You did not!

Mr. Githae: Indeed, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have apologized. Well, I am apologizing again for that human error that occurred.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Githae, address the Chair! Do not allow hon. Members to ask you questions and you respond. The Chair has now given you an opportunity to give your answer because you have withdrawn the previous one and apologized.

Carry on!

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware. At the beginning of the session, the registers of voters were found to have had a maximum of seven digits in the identity card numbers. Those with eight digits were suspended in all the 89 polling stations and 156 cases of mis-spelled names have been identified and corrective action is being taken by the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) officials who are displaying the registers to the public for inspection. Immediately this error was detected, new voters' registers were printed and distributed to all the 89 centres.

(b) Errors related to the suspension of the digits arose due to printing errors of the registers as this was a massive exercise which was carried out under pressure for the registers to be ready for inspection at a particular time. Otherwise, in the electronic registers, the errors are absent. Errors related to misspelt names occurred due to human clerical errors when the voters were registered. In May, 2005, new voters were added to the registers while other registered voters applied to transfer their registration while others were deleted from the registers because they were deceased. Transcribing errors may have occurred during this period.

This confirms why it is extremely critical for voters to check the voters' registers. To date, approximately 2 million voters have inspected the registers. It is only through inspection that it is possible to identify such errors. Inspection of voters' registers at registration centres will end on 18th October, 2005, and the ECK, therefore, appeals to those who have not inspected the registers to do so as a matter of urgency.

(c) Where there is proof that a voter is validly registered, he or she will be allowed to cast their vote.

Mr. Sambu: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for your indulgence so that the right answer could be read, part "a" of the answer says:-

"Yes, at the beginning of the session, the registers of voters were found to have had a

maximum of seven digits---"

Those are the digits in the identity cards, and it is very strange that in May, 2005, everybody in my constituency or most of the people had gone to check the registers and they were all right but later, those registers were withdrawn. What is the reason behind the changing of those registers as we draw near the date of the referendum? What is the reason? If an identity card has eight digits and you suspend one digit, that will make it a completely different identity card! What is the reason?

Mr. Githae: On behalf of the ECK, let me apologize profusely for that error. There are no errors in the electronic registers. The errors occurred when the registers were being printed and bound. Once again, those errors were countrywide and were not restricted to a particular constituency.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure this House and all the hon. Members that the days of rigging elections and the referendum are over. The Government is determined to make this exercise very successful and legitimate and, therefore, we will do all that is in our power to make sure there is not even a single complaint. Where a complaint will be received, it will be rectified. Once again, let me apologize on behalf of the ECK and state that those errors have been rectified.

I would like to emphasize on the need for hon. Members of this House to sensitize their electorate to go and check the registers. It is very important! On behalf of the ECK, I would also like to thank the 2 million registered voters who have actually gone and checked the registers. I would like to ask each and every hon. Member of this House to go and check the registers so that whatever errors are there, are rectified.

Mr. Owino: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a countrywide thing. For example, in my own constituency, 39 stations, which form a whole division had all the names misplaced and the identity card numbers were shorter than they should be. I believe that several such registers were returned to the headquarters in Nairobi. Now, could the Assistant Minister assure this House that all registers will be returned by the date of the referendum?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to give the assurance that, once the errors were identified, the registers were returned and they have all been sent back to the registration centres. Once again, let me appeal to hon. Members of Parliament to sensitize their electorate to go and check the registers.

Mr. Boit: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister assure this House that what he says--- Because in Baringo North Constituency and, indeed, in the Rift Valley, although he says that the error is countrywide, it is heavily felt particularly in Rift Valley. Could he also assure this House that the youth who have not received their identity cards up to date can be given them immediately? They withdrew over 1 million identity cards the other day. What are they doctoring?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said earlier, the days of rigging elections are over. This Government has absolutely no intention of rigging any election or referendum. This error was countrywide and it was not restricted to Rift Valley; it affected all constituencies. I have explained that the error was due to the hurry in which the exercise was done; otherwise the electronic data registry is intact and there are no errors. As far as the identity cards are concerned, they are not issued by the ECK. Identity cards are issued by the Office of the President and I understand that instructions have been issued to the registration officers to expedite the process so that each and every citizen who is entitled to an identity card receives it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, last question, Mr. Sambu!

Mr. Sambu: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. In part "c" of the answer, the Assistant Minister says:-

"Where there is proof that a voter is validly registered, he or she will be allowed to cast their vote."

The proof is on the identity card because it carries a photograph of the person. If the carrier of the identity card and the one shown on the photograph are seen to be the same person, and the records tally with the voters card, will the Assistant Minister assure Kenyans that, that will be enough proof? When Kenyans go to inspect the registers, they are not issued with a receipt saying that you have inspected the register and you also do not sign anywhere. Will the identity card and the voter's card be enough proof for a person to vote at the referendum?

Mr. Githae: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the ECK also accepts the passport, but you have to show that you had been registered earlier, otherwise if you are allowed to vote just because you have an identity card, that may create room for manipulation. So, what is required for you to vote is the voter's card and the identity card, and your name must also appear on the register. Where you have a voter's card and an identity card but your name is not on the register, a separate roll is always maintained during elections so that it can be confirmed later that you had actually been registered. That has been the system and it will go on in the same way. Once again, I would like to assure this House that the referendum will be free, fair and there will be no rigging absolutely.

Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question, Dr. Khalwale!

SHORTAGE OF STAFF/FACILITIES
AT KAKAMEGA PROVINCIAL
GENERAL HOSPITAL

Dr. Khalwale: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Health the following Question by Private Notice.

What is the Minister doing to restore normal services at Kakamega Provincial General Hospital, where the delivery of medical services has been paralysed by the shortage of staff and facilities, putting the lives of thousands of patients at risk?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the Minister for Health here? Your Excellency, the Leader of Government Business?

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, regrettably, I have no information at all about the Minister. She has not communicated with me.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Ministers are given hefty allowances, and---

The Minister for Water (Ms. Karua): Which Minister?

Mr. Angwenyi: This type of Ministers. This Question is very important because our people are suffering in the hospitals since the workers were removed from the payroll in those hospitals. We also have a problem in Kisii Hospital. So, could you give a ruling that Ministers must be here to answer this type of Questions which affect the welfare of our people; if they do not, you must penalize them somehow.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I do not want us to classify some Questions as important and others as not important. All Questions before the House are important; so this Question and all others that we are going through are important. The only thing I can emphasize is the presence of Ministers to answer and hon. Members to ask Questions. But, be that as it may, the Vice President and Minister for Home Affairs has informed you that he has no information about the Minister. So, Dr. Khalwale, I can only defer this Question to Tuesday, next week.

Dr. Khalwale: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I appreciate your consideration that we defer this Question, I would like to inform the House that Vihiga and Kakamega districts are the leading districts with the number of babies born per day.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order, Dr. Khalwale! Could you, please, sit down. You will have an opportunity to explain those statistics next week, but for now, let us move on to the next Question by Mr. Mwanicha.

(Question deferred)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Question No.463

EXCLUSION OF INDIVIDUAL TEA FACTORIES FROM PROCUREMENT OF GOODS

Mr. Mwanicha asked the Minister for Agriculture:-

- (a) whether he is aware that procurement of major goods and services for all tea factories is done through the Kenya Tea Development Agency at the headquarters with minimal involvement of directors; and,
- (b) what step he is taking to ensure individual factories take full charge of the purchases for major goods and services like tea collection lorries, tractors, factory machinery and furnace oil.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Akaranga): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we had exhaustively answered this Question except for a document that hon. Members wanted me to table. That was, minutes signed by directors from various tea factories and some of the contracts.

I have personally talked to some of the directors from various tea factories. Their response was that some of them are quite aware of the procurement procedures by KTDA, while some are totally unaware. That prompts me to say that factories need to elect directors who understand what they are supposed to do.

I beg to table the document.

(Mr. Akaranga laid documents on the Table)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well! Mr. Mwanicha, the list has been laid on the Table as we demanded. Do you have anything to say?

Mr. Mwanicha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister agrees that in some factories, the directors are not aware of what is going on. These are the factories I was talking about where the procurement is done without the knowledge of the directors. What is the Assistant Minister going to do to ensure that all the directors are involved in the procurement of goods and services, especially, furnace oil, insurance services, fertiliser and transportation of items to Mombasa? This involves a lot of money which is spent without the knowledge of the directors. This is why factories are not making profits. Farmers are on the verge of uprooting their tea plants. Could the Assistant Minister ensure that this is done?

Mr. Akaranga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, some of the directors who are knowledgeable of the Companies Act know what to do. I have personally informed the Managing Director of the KTDA, that he should give guidance to those factories which want to procure goods. If we have any particular factory which the hon. Member wants me to personally intervene, I will be pleased to do so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: As a matter of fact, this Question was dealt with last time. What we

only wanted was that document to be laid on the Table. I only allowed Mr. Mwanicha to ask one question and, therefore, we shall have no further questions.

Next Question!

Question No.549

AMBULANCES FOR HEALTH
FACILITIES IN UGENYA

Archbishop Ondiek asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) when her Ministry will deliver ambulances to Ukwala Health Centre and Ambira Sub-District Hospital in Ugenya Constituency, as she promised to the House; and,
- (b) when Ukwala Health Centre will be upgraded to a Sub-District Hospital.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Minister for Health is not in? I once again invite the Leader of Government Business to comment, for record purposes.

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, once again I wish to apologise to the House. I request that we defer this Question until next week. I will make sure that the Minister or the Assistant Minister is here to answer it. Thank you.

Archbishop Ondiek: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the answer that I have is not even signed. It shows that the Minister is not serious with this answer. She is only selling bananas!

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Archbishop Ondiek! You know better than that, especially being an Archbishop.

The Question is deferred to Tuesday.

(Question deferred)

Question No.304

IMPROVEMENT IN ACCESSIBILITY
TO COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Mr. Leshore asked the Minister for Information and Communications:-

- (a) whether he is aware that lack of information and poor communication facilities are a major impediment to achieving development goals in the rural areas; and,
- (b) what plans he has to ensure that Kenyans countrywide enjoy accessibility to TV coverage, telephone services and radio station frequencies.

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Minister for Information and Communications, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that lack of information and communication facilities in the rural areas is a major impediment to the achievement of development goals. It is in consideration of this problem that the Government is in the process of setting up a universal access fund that will support communication infrastructure development and service penetration. All stakeholders in the sector will be expected to contribute to the fund. The setting of the fund is, however, awaiting the finalization of the National Information Communication Technology (ICT) Policy and amendment

of the relevant legal framework, later in the year.

(b) The Government has already licensed a number of private television and radio broadcasters, including community broadcasters, to broadcast in various areas countrywide.

Mr. Leshore: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first, I would like to thank the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs for that answer. The Chair should note that this young ministers are giving our Vice-President a lot of work. He has been going round the country campaigning for the banana team and yet his ministers are just idling around.

However, this Question is very important, particularly this time when the referendum campaign is going on all over the country. My people who are pastoralists have no access to the media, and therefore, do not know what is happening. The Luos, Kikuyus and Kalenjins are aware of what is going on---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Leshore! It was only last week that the Chair ruled that this House should be devoid of tribal sentiments. Could you use another description?

Mr. Leshore: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said so because they have access to the television and even radio stations which broadcast in local languages. If you went to Mandera, you would find Kenyans there listening to Radio Mogadishu or the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). What is the Minister doing to ensure that the rest of Kenyans have access to radio stations broadcasting in their local languages?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have stated, a fund is being set up, which will be used to set up both television and radio stations in various areas where private media companies find it difficult to set up their stations because it costs a lot of money to set up a television or radio station. Therefore, this fund is just going to subsidize broadcasting stations in areas which are not attractive in an economic way. This is to ensure that those areas are not marginalised and receive radio frequencies.

The Government has issued a lot of frequencies and a lot of them are not being utilised at all. When we set up this fund, we will invite other people to make applications, so that we can subsidize them to start broadcasting stations. My good friend Mr. Leshore will not only have access to the television but also the radio for his pastoralist voters.

Mr. Chepkitony: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) has been operating for over 40 years but it has not yet covered the whole country. Are there any plans for KBC to cover the whole country using satellite transmissions?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, to my knowledge one frequency that covers the whole country is the KBC. But as I have said, if KBC is not covering Keiyo District, then we will use this fund to expand the reach. I would like to invite local people to set up broadcasting stations so that this fund can assist them.

Mr. Leshore: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could Mr. Awori tell the House when this fund is going to be set up? Is it in this year's Budget?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said in my substantive answer, we are only waiting for a regional framework to be set up and this is going to be done at the end of this year.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question by Mr. Cheboi!

Question No.662

NUMBER OF KENYA PRISONS
RECRUITS FROM KURESOI CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Cheboi asked the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs:-

- (a) how many people from Kuresoi Constituency were recruited to Kenya Prisons during the last intake; and,
(b) if he could give the breakdown for each constituency in the said recruitment.

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The recruitment exercise for Kenya Prisons is done on a district administrative boundaries basis. During the last recruitment exercise carried out on 18th March, 2005, 15 people were recruited in Nakuru District within which Kuresoi Constituency falls.

(b) The last recruitment exercise was done in gazetted administrative districts and recruitment centres according to the population density of each. There are no figures available as per each constituency. The figures we have got are by administrative centres.

Mr. Cheboi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a lot of respect for the elder, His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs. However, I asked a specific Question and I am sure he knows like I do, that there was not a single recruit from Kuresoi Constituency and yet we pay taxes like everybody else. When he talks of the recruitment being undertaken on the basis of population density, Nakuru District is third after Nairobi and Mombasa and yet we have for a long time been disfavoured by the recruitment. Could the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs inform the House how many people were recruited specifically from Kuresoi Constituency?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there were 80 administrative centres that cover the whole country and each one of them was given recruits according to the population. I cannot tell the hon. Member the number of recruits from Kuresoi Constituency but I would like to lay on the Table the distribution of those recruits in the 80 administrative centres.

(Mr. Awori laid the document on the Table)

Mr. ole Metito: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, according to the list tabled by His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs, there are certain districts which were classified as administrative districts and at the same time as recruitment centres. Could the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs inform the House what criteria was used to award certain districts additional recruitment centres and not others?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unless the hon. Member is kind enough to inform me which ones they are, it is difficult for me to explain. It is only in Nairobi where we had two recruitment centres which are the National Youth Service Headquarters and Kenya Prisons Headquarters.

Mr. Muiruri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs pointed out that he is looking more at the welfare of the prisoners rather than that of the prison officers, but besides that, he is doing a good job. Is the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs aware that there is a lot of corruption in the recruitment of prison officers? Secondly, is he also aware that before the former Commissioner for Prisons, Mr. Kamakil, retired in June, he promoted 45 officers and all of them were his own kinsmen? I have a list here to prove that since it contains names of all his relatives and friends. This act of nepotism by Mr. Kamakil also includes the release of prisoners.

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the answer to the first question is that it is not entirely correct to say that I am only looking after the welfare of prisoners and excluding that of the officers. The hon. Member would be aware that only recently, the salaries of prison officers were increased by 100 per cent. Secondly, as far as the living quarters of these officers are concerned, it is only today that we signed a contract to build 96 houses for these officers at Nairobi West and

various houses at all the 92 prison facilities throughout the country. So, with the budgetary allocations that we are receiving, the question of offering good living quarters for officers is a very slow process. As to the hon. Member's second question about corruption in the form of nepotism, unless we have got correct and concrete evidence to that effect, I am not prepared to answer it.

Mr. Leshore: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also suffering from the same problem as that of my colleague from Kuresoi. We have never had recruits to Kenya Prisons from Samburu East for the last six years. Could the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs consider giving us special employment slots for our youth in the Kenya Prisons?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I am going to check up to see if there have been no recruitments in Samburu East but we will be recruiting some more in February next year. I am going to ensure that if there had been any mistakes in the past, they are redressed.

Dr. Khalwale: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Could I be in order to point out to His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs that Nginyang', Tot and Marigat centres are in the same district, that is Baringo, and yet they received 60 recruits compared to Kakamega District which received only 15 recruits? Could the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs confirm to the House that the former President Moi is not the one still in charge of recruiting these people?

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Khalwale, you stood on a point of order. That is not a point of order and, therefore, the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs will not answer it.

Mr. Cheboi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I went personally to His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs and pointed out this problem to him. There is no single recruit from Kuresoi Constituency. I even told him to recruit only one officer from the Ogiek community. Could the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs assure me that once he starts his next recruitment exercise in February, he will recruit officers from my constituency?

Mr. Awori: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, indeed, I really want to help the hon. Member and certainly I want to see some Ogiek go on and even become the Commissioner of Prisons. I give him my word that in February when we will be recruiting, there will be several recruits from Kuresoi Constituency and in particular the Ogiek community.

(Applause)

Question No.653

REVIVAL OF ASAL/KLDP
PROJECT IN HABASWEIN

Mr. Abdirahman asked the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries:-

- (a) when the ASAL/KLDP Project in Habaswein will be revived; and,
- (b) when veterinary personnel will be posted to Habaswein Sub-District.

The Assistant Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Development (Mr. Shakombo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) My Ministry has no immediate plans to revive the ASAL/KLDP Project in Habaswein since the project was finalized and handed over to the local community in 1995 for their use and

subsequent management. However, some of the problems being experienced by the livestock farmers will be addressed through the activities currently being undertaken by the ASAL-based Livestock and Rural Livelihood Support Project which is targeting 22 ASAL Districts including Wajir District.

(b) My Ministry has already identified a veterinary officer to be posted to Habaswein shortly to support livestock farmers. The officer is due to report there by 10th November, 2005.

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Assistant Minister for assuring me that a veterinary officer will be posted to Habaswein by 10th November, 2005. I hope that will be done.

However, with regard to part (a) of my Question, I wish to point out that the original intention of this project was actually to support livestock farmers and screen animals, particularly cattle, while enroute to Garissa and other markets. In fact, there is a laboratory that was set up, but never became functional. Last year, the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Development promised to revive this project in the interest of farmers. It is unfortunate that the response to part (a) of my Question is very general. It is not sufficient to say that there is an ASAL-based Livestock and Rural Livelihood Support Project which is targeting 22 ASAL districts. How does the Ministry want us to operationalise that project in the interest of the farmers? We really want to use that holding ground.

Mr. Shakombo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. However, the laboratory could not function because of shortage of staff.

With regard to his other concern, we are now trying to revive the project according to the wishes of the people in the ASAL districts. That way, whatever that has not been happening in the ASAL districts will be reactivated so that the livestock farmers can be adequately taken care of.

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want hon. Shakombo, who according to me may have better management skills in fisheries than livestock, to tell us how much we will benefit from this new project which is covering 22 ASAL Districts. Could he also tell us what is specifically in store for Wajir District this financial year?

Mr. Shakombo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the ASAL/KLDP projects were sponsored by the European Union (EU). The projects are started at the request of livestock farmers in a given district. The livestock farmers indicate to the Ministry whatever projects they would like it to undertake. That is how we come in.

Question No.225

INSTALLATION OF WATER PUMP AT TIMBONI
BY MOMBASA SALT COMPANY

Mr. Kombe asked the Minister for Water and Irrigation when she will compel Mombasa Salt Company to put in place the water pump at Timboni water wells and repair all pipes damaged during the construction of salt lagoons so that water services may be restored to the residents of Gongoni Town.

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

The residents of Gongoni Town and the surrounding environs have been served by the Mjanaheri water supply which stalled in 1994 due to a breakdown of a pumping unit. The project is managed by the community and the source of water is the Timboni Water Wells. When the pumping unit broke down, the Mombasa Salt Company, which operates its salt lagoons nearby, volunteered to assist in repairing it. However, up to date, the pump has not been repaired. In 1994

and 1995, when the salt company was expanding its salt lagoons, it destroyed a portion of the rising mains of the pipeline. The company agreed to fund the realignment of the pipeline in order to avail adequate space for the lagoons. However, it has not fulfilled this obligation to date although my Ministry wrote to them on the urgency of the rehabilitation in July, last year. My Ministry will spend Kshs2 million to repair the pump set and realign the mains of Mjanaheri Water Supply during this financial year. We will still follow the company to make good the loss they caused.

Mr. Kombe: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I appreciate the answer given by the Minister and the efforts she is making to ensure that the people of Gongoni Town get water, could she tell this House when this pumping unit will be repaired so that we can get water from the Mjanaheri Water Supply? It is now 11 years since the pump broke down.

Ms. Karua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said they will be repaired this financial year. That means between now and June, next year, we expect the residents to have got water. I also expect the Coast Water Service Board to move pretty fast now that the funding is available.

Mr. Kombe: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Minister compel the company to make good the pumps that they destroyed so that we can use the same pumps to extend water to the suburbs of Gongoni Town?

Ms. Karua: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already said so. I said that my Ministry will repair the pumps, but still follow the company to make good the loss.

Question No.612

APPLICATION OF REGISTRATION OF TITLES ACT IN COAST PROVINCE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Gonzi Rai is not present today and he asked me to defer this Question to Tuesday, next week. Is that okay with you Mr. Mungatana?

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing (Mr. Mungatana): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir that is fine with me.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Question is, therefore, deferred to Tuesday, next week.

(Question deferred)

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

CONSERVATION OF NATIONAL HERITAGE

The Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President and Ministry of Home Affairs (Mr. Balala): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take this opportunity to inform this House that I have just returned from the 33rd United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) General Assembly in Paris, France with the Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Prof. George Saitoti. As the Minister in charge of National Heritage, I was attending the World Heritage General Assembly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the convention spells out duties of State parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them. Kenya is among the 180 countries that have signed the convention. Each country pledges to conserve not only the world heritage sites situated on their territories, but also protect its national heritage.

The convention recognises the way in which people interact with nature and the

fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two. It is strictly the obligation of member States to report regularly to the World Heritage Committee on the state of conservation of their world heritage properties to enable it assess the condition of the sites; decide on specific programmes and needs; and resolve their recurrent problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, allow me to proudly announce that Kenya was, on 11th October, 2005 elected to this important committee of 21 members of the World Heritage Committee. The country will be represented at the General Assembly by Dr. George Abungu for a term of up to four years. It took us a long time to get elected. In fact, we had to go through three levels of elections. This committee is responsible for the implementation of the World Heritage Conventions; defines the use of the World Heritage Fund; and allocation of financial assistance upon request from State parties. It is the one with the final say and examines the reports on the state of conservation of inscribed properties. It asks the State to take action when State properties are not properly managed.

Kenya has three world heritage sites, which include Lake Turkana, Kobifora, Mount Kenya Forest, as a natural forest, and the old town of Lamu. This year, we have requested to be listed in the prestigious list; the Rift Valley of Kenya, Fort Jesus Museum, Mombasa old town and the Kaya Forest at the Coast.

With those remarks, I want to thank all the countries that supported Kenya for the election, which is a pride for the country.

POINTS OF ORDER

MURDER OF ELDERLY PEOPLE IN NDARAGUA

Mr. Muchiri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek a Ministerial Statement from the Minister, Office of the President in charge of Internal Security and Provincial Administration. In the last one week or so, there have been killings in Ndaragua Constituency, particularly, in Kwanjora area in Mathigira Location and Karogoini area of Leshau Location. The killers are targeting old men and women, those over 85 years of age. Two women and one man, of that age, have already been killed. Therefore, Ndaragua people would like to know why and who are behind the killings, and what steps the Government is undertaking to beef up security in the area.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we will give the Ministerial Statement on Wednesday, next week.

LIST OF KPCU DEBTORS

Mr. Weya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the previous Session of this Parliament, the Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing promised to bring to this House a list of debtors to the Kenya Planters Co-operative Union (KPCU). I request him to do that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Yes, I recall that! Is the Minister for Co-operative Development and Marketing here?

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will pass that information to him so that he can present it next week on Tuesday.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Vice-President!

Hon. Members, we now move on to the next order! The time now is 3.32 p.m. Therefore, the House will rise at 6.32 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

*(Order for Committee read being
Fourteenth Allotted Day)*

MOTION

THAT MR. SPEAKER DO
NOW LEAVE THE CHAIR

Vote 30 - Ministry of Energy

(The Minister for Energy on 12.10.2005)

*(Resumption of Debate
interrupted on 12.10.2005)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Who was on the Floor when we ended Debate on this Vote yesterday?

An hon. Member: Mr. Angwenyi!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Angwenyi was on the Floor, but he is not in. He has forfeited his chance. I will now give an opportunity to Mr. M. Kariuki.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I wish to support this Vote of the Ministry of Energy. The challenge that this country has is to look for alternative sources of energy. We have become too dependant on electric power and cooking gas. We have depleted our forests because we look at trees as a source of energy. Trees are used in terms of firewood and charcoal, and that is why we are running into the danger of destroying our environment. We have to be an ambitious nation which looks forward to being in the modern age. Nobody talks about the use of nuclear energy in this country. We think of it as an exclusive function for the developed countries. However, we have to start somewhere. We have the human resource that is necessary to take steps in that direction. We need to train people on how to explore possibilities of having nuclear reactors. We know of developed countries which now use nuclear reactors as a source of energy. It is fairly expensive, but perhaps more reliable than other sources of energy. We should invest in research, technology and exploring alternative sources of energy because it is important. Our traditional sources of energy which are firewood and charcoal, have made us run into problems with our environment. Today, our forest cover has been depleted and we need to look out for alternative sources.

Tanzania has a huge reservoir of natural gas. We should also tap natural gas. Today, Tanzania is one of the leading nations in the world, in terms of production of natural gas. We should think of having a pipeline from Dar es Salaam to Nairobi. That way, we will have natural gas as a form of energy for our households. That should be part of our planning, as we look ahead to explore possibilities of having our own natural gas within our environment.

I have found out that windvanes are very useful in rural areas in terms of getting water from boreholes or dams. This is a cheap source of energy because it does not require too much input. One only needs to design a windvane and have appropriate fixtures. This should be one of the areas we should be looking into.

The KPLC has been a major disappointment to us. We thought that the era of power blackout was over. However, we still experience power blackout. Some of us who have generators

as an alternative sources of energy end up spending more money while fuelling our generators when power fails, particularly in Nairobi. We need to do a clear analysis of the causes of power failure and blackout. The KPLC has a responsibility to deliver services to people. We pay dearly for power, yet we continue to experience power blackout. I have not seen any improvement in that area. It is an area that we need to put our interests into and make positive reforms.

We have been starting rural electrification projects every other year. Unfortunately, they are not actualised for one reason or another. As an agricultural country, and given that majority of our people live in the rural areas, it is important to invest more in rural electrification. If we are to create an industrial base within our rural areas, where we can have food processing factories, and maintain our small maize mills, then we would need to ensure that we have power supply. We cannot promote trade unless we are guaranteed of power supply within our trading centres. We require to have electric power in our trading centres, not only for trading purposes, but also for security reasons. An area that has the benefit of electric power, whether a rural or urban area, is a more secure place. Therefore, as we look forward to rural electrification, we should know that it is the hope for Kenyans in terms of development. We have found it extremely difficult, especially in urban areas where there is no street lighting, for police to carry out their normal patrols. The local authorities, with all the problems they have, have not done very well in terms of ensuring that there is street lighting, particularly in the residential areas and in the business centres. Most towns are literally in darkness at night and police officers on patrol face many challenges.

I remember that, in my town in the year 2003, because there was no street lighting, there was an invasion of the estate and several people were killed by some raiders. It was very difficult to track down the raiders. Therefore, we should invest more in street lighting. The local authorities should take that challenge because it is part of their facilitation of security and surveillance that we need, both in our rural and urban areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, water is a very major source of development because people must have clean water not only for consumption, but also for irrigation. As such, today we see very many people investing in floriculture particularly those around Lake Naivasha who use the lake as a source of water for irrigation. You can obviously see the danger that has been posed to the lake now. There is too much consumption of fresh water from Lake Naivasha into the flower farms around there. Gradually, the water levels of the lake have been decreasing.

We should practise dry irrigation. Large scale farmers like Delamere have been able to carry out dry irrigation using ploughs. They also drilled boreholes which they used to irrigate their land. This is important and that is why rural electrification becomes a very critical factor in terms of ensuring that even in areas where we do not have water projects, individual farmers can drill boreholes and use power to carry out dry irrigation so that they can practise dairy farming, floriculture and other forms of agriculture.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

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

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very important Ministry for the future of Kenyans. We would like to see more money factored into this Ministry to ensure that our people have access to cheaper sources of energy. Kenya is probably one of the most expensive countries in terms of the cost of electricity per unit. I think we need to ask ourselves why this is the case. If it is possible to get cheaper energy from outside, we should not hesitate to do so. This would be a better

solution instead of establishing more power stations within the country when the cost of electricity is too high. We can save on what we are spending presently by investing in economical water sources and dams. We can get cheaper power from South Africa or Zambia and save 40 per cent of what we are using now. We need to venture out.

We know that Uganda has cheaper source of energy. Due to our pride we do not want to accept that we can be dependent on foreign sources for supply of electricity. It is a matter of economics. If we can get cheaper power from outside, we do not have to invest locally to generate power which is expensive. We have to be open with ourselves and say: "If there are other countries which can produce cheaper sources of power let us go for it."

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, all investors normally look at the infrastructure before investing and power is one of the major infrastructure. They also look at the cost of production. One of the major setbacks for investors in this country is the cost of power. Why do we not think about importation of power and other sources of energy from outside other than continuing to run dams within this country which are economical, silt too fast and desilting becomes very difficult. We have to encourage investors and business people to invest their money in the industry. The only way they can do that is by ensuring that they have cheaper sources of electricity because that is the key to production.

We have seen the cost of oil increasing because of the increase of prices for crude oil in the world market. In the last six months we have seen a jump of almost US\$20 for crude oil. This has affected the world economy. We have seen the cost of transport become higher in this country because of the cost of oil. We need to invest money into oil exploration to find out whether it is possible that Kenya has potential for oil. We need to invest more money in research and exploration and we might make a breakthrough. Our neighbours in Sudan have huge reserves of oil. We border them and we wonder whether there could be huge reserves of oil within our borders. This is an area which we can invest in as we look for cheaper sources of energy.

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

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Asante sana Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipa fursa hii ili nichangie Hoja hii ya Wizara ya Kawi. Ningependa kumshukuru Waziri jinsi alivyoeleza kwa kirefu akitafuta pesa ambazo zitamusaidia kuendesha Wizara yake.

Tulipochukua uongozi tulisema kwamba dhamira yetu ni kufufua uchumi. Hatutaweza kufufua uchumi bila kuwatafuta wadhamini wanaoweza kuleta rasilmali katika nchi hii. Inasemekana kwamba gharama ya kutengeneza vifaa katika nchi yetu iko juu sana kwa sasa. Gharama hii iko juu kwa sababu ya gharama ya kawi. Tuna nafasi nyingi za kujitosheleza. Si lazima tuwe tunaangalia njia za kawaida za uzalishaji wa kawi. Utafiti umeonyesha ya kwamba kuna upepo mwingi katika Wilaya ya Marsabit ambao unaweza kutumiwa kwa kuleta kawi. Wakati umefika ambapo tunafaa kuwa wataalamu wa uzalishaji wa kawi ambayo inatokana na upepo. Hii itapunguza gharama ya kufanya biashara.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, huku nchini jua huwaka mwaka mzima. Labda mawingu hutokea katika miezi ya Juni au Julai na inazuia jua kuonekana. Katika sehemu nyingi za Kenya kuna jua kali sana. Tunafaa kueleza pesa katika uzalishaji wa kawi inayotokana na jua ili tuweze kuongeza kawi katika nchi yetu. Ukienda Uchina utapata kwamba wana miradi ya kuleta stima katika vijiji mahali popote. Hii ni miradi midogo midogo ambayo inaweza kuwahudumia watu kama laki moja. Si lazima tungojee miradi mikubwa kama Kindaruma, Sondu Miriu au kadhalika. Tukiweza kuangalia jinsi tunaweza kuwa na miradi midogo midogo kwenye mito tulio nayo tutaweza kuongeza kawi katika nchi yetu.

Nguvu za umeme katika mashinani ni muhimu. Ikiwa tunataka kuimarisha uchumi wa

mashinani, lazima tuongeze nguvu za umeme katika sehemu hiyo. Kampuni ya KPLC mara nyingi inalipisha watu pesa nyingi kwa utumizi wa stima. Sisi Mawaziri tumejibu Maswali hapa Bunge tukisema kwamba mtu binafsi akitaka kupata nguvu za umeme inatakikana alipe Kshs15,000. Ikiwa ni mfanya biashara atalipa Kshs53,000. Hivi majuzi kuna shule kutoka sehemu yangu ambayo ilitaka nguvu za umeme. Wakati walipojaza yale makaratasi KPLC iliwaambia lazima walipe Kshs127,000. Ningependa kumwuliza Waziri mwenzangu kuchunguza ajue kampuni hii ya KPLC inapata madaraka kutoka wapi ya kulipisha bei juu ya ile tuliowaeleza watu wetu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kila asubuhi watu wanaosafiri kuja mjini wanachelewa kwa sababu ya msongamano wa magari. Wakati umefika ambapo tunafaa kutumia magari ya reli kuwasafirisha abiria hapa Nairobi na vile vile katika nchi mzima. Barabara zetu zimeharibika sana kwa sababu zinatumiwa na magari makubwa ya kusafirisha mizigo mizito. Ingekuwa bora ikiwa usafirishaji wa mizigo hii ungefanywa kupitia huduma za gari moshi. Tunafaa tundeze huduma za gari moshi zinazotumia umeme ili turahisishie usafirishaji wa bidhaa. Tukifanya hivyo, barabara zetu zitadumu kwa muda mrefu.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, nchi hii imepakana na Tanzania, Uganda na Somalia. Ikiwa tunataka usalama wetu uimarike, ni lazima tuhakikishe kuwa afisi zetu zilizo kwenye mipaka zina umeme. Wakati huu, ukisafiri kwa barabara kutoka Tanzania, pale Namanga, utapata kuwa upande wa Tanzania una umeme lakini upande wetu hauna. Nilimsikia Bw. Nyachae akisema kwamba Wizara yake imetenga Kshs16 milioni pekee kufadhili mradi huu. Lakini gharama ya kuweka umeme katika afisi hizo pale Namanga ni Kshs69 milioni. Ingekuwa bora kama nguvu za umeme zingewekwa katika sehemu hiyo hata ikiwa tutazinyima sehemu zingine pesa kwa sababu mipaka ndiyo inatuwezesha kuwa na usalama kwa sababu tunazuia wahalifu kuingia nchi yetu. Ningetaka kumsihi Waziri atilie maanani jambo hili. Tunafa tukubali mwito wake wa kupitisha bajeti hii ya Wizara yake kwa kauli moja.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono Hoja hii.

Mr. Rotino: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to the Vote of the Ministry of Energy. From the outset, I would like to say that I support this Vote.

First and foremost, I would like to comment on the issue of the Turkwell Gorge Hydro-electric Power Station. There has been an on-going dispute about the ownership of the Turkwell Gorge. The Turkwell Gorge was designed, supervised and built by the Kerio Valley Development Authority (KVDA). After it was commissioned, the Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) took over the running of this company. The KenGen gives KVDA, an authority that manages issues of development within the jurisdiction of about three districts, about Kshs40 million annually for conservation. This amount of money is very minimal for conservation of the upper Turkwell. If ownership of other power stations could be resolved, this will go a long way in boosting the morale of the staff of those authorities.

The Turkwell Gorge Project falls within Sigor Constituency. This project generates power and yet the entire constituency is engulfed in darkness. There is no power at all. This is a national project generating a lot of money for this country. When the Minister is replying, he should tell this House how much money has been allocated to Sigor Constituency through the Rural Electrification Programme (REP). I have raised these concerns since 1992. My people need to have power. If we have power, this will go a long way in creating employment for our people. Most of my constituency is dry, but we are lucky to have boreholes. If electricity is availed, people will engage in irrigation. We will also give a chance to those who have completed studies in polytechnics to start *Jua Kali* workshops. I would like the Minister to consider this as a very serious matter. He should assure this House that during this financial year, my people will be supplied with power through the

REP.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now turn to the alternative sources of energy. In the North Rift, in the drier parts of this country, there is a lot of wind energy. We need to tap this energy. We also need to educate our people on the usefulness of this kind of energy. Many NGOs that have set base in those areas need to be motivated to help our people use this energy. They should also assist us avail this cheap energy to people in the rural areas. By doing this, we will fight poverty and create employment for our people. Most people in the rural areas move to urban centres where electricity is available because that is where they can conduct their business. We should encourage our people to put up more village polytechnics in the rural areas. Most students take tailoring courses because they know they do not need electricity to do their work. However, young men cannot engage in welding because there is no electricity. They are forced to migrate to urban centres where electricity is available. So, by availing electricity to these people, we will go a long way in creating employment opportunities. During the campaigns for the 2002 General Elections, the NARC Government promised Kenyans that they would create 500,000 jobs annually. That can be realised if electricity is availed to our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will now touch on the issue of the high cost of electricity in this country. The electricity bill for my home in Nairobi is about Kshs8,000 a month while I pay less than Kshs1,000 for my other home in Kapenguria District. The most interesting thing is that the facilities in both homes are the same. The cost of electricity in this country, and especially in urban areas, is very expensive. As much as we are advocating for electricity to be availed to people in the rural areas, the cost should be reduced. As many hon. Members have said, the cost of electricity is very high maybe because of taxation. However, if we want to supply power to people in the rural areas, this high cost should be reviewed. Otherwise it will be useless for people to apply for power and yet they cannot meet the high electricity bills.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me turn to the issue of the Rural Electrification Programme (REP). If we need to supply power to our people through the REP, it should not be based on political affiliations. Development of this kind should be done on priority basis. In West Pokot, for example, there is a place called Bendera, between Kapenguria and Makutano. It is good the Minister knows this place. Between Kapenguria and the administration and business centre, there is a junction, which is highly populated. In this area, power lines just passed over to Makutano and Kapenguria. One wonders how the KPLC prioritizes its projects. Last year, I asked a Question in this House with regard to this particular issue. I was informed that Kshs4 million has been set aside for supply of electricity to that area. Two years down the line, nothing has been done. I wish the Minister could give us his order of priorities. If development takes place in Western Province, it should also be done in the North Rift. If you want to develop areas in my district, you should give us a priority list so that I am in a position to tell my constituents that they will get electricity in a given period. We do not want to have haphazard development. We should have planned development. Prioritizing projects will give us the way forward as far as issues of electricity are concerned.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that have come up. The Ministry must have a plan with those NGOs, so that they can construct windmills and harness solar energy. They should be encouraged and motivated by the Ministry.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

Mr. Musila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this important Motion. I want to join my colleagues in congratulating my good friend, the hon. Minister, for the able manner in which he presented his Vote. I am also very confident that the Ministry of Energy has an efficient Minister who is willing to do everything possible to correct the past ills and misdeeds of that Ministry. Let me also thank the Ministry of

Energy for allocating Kshs200 million under Head 427 for petroleum and coal exploration. For the record, the area covered by coal exploration covers Kitui and Mwingi districts, although the Minister talked about Kitui only. It is in Kitui and Mwingi districts and, particularly, in my constituency.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, coal exploration has gone on for a long time. We believe that if the exploration is done as quickly as possible, it will transform the lives of our people for the better. This country would also benefit immensely. At the moment, we are importing coal for the manufacture of cement at a huge expense from the Republic of South Africa. We know that from coal, we can even generate power. I urge the Minister to do everything possible to hasten that exploration. However, I would like to know the following: Now that we know the deposits are there, what plans does the Ministry have to get an investor in that vital sector? It would be useless to know that there is coal in Mwingi and Kitui districts, when we let it lie there. We want the Government to take concrete steps to get investors.

Incidentally, I was informed that the method the Ministry is using now for the exploration of coal is outdated. I have seen drilling rigs like those that drill boreholes, drilling coal in Mwingi. I was told that, that is an outdated method. There are other methods which can detect coal easily and more efficiently. I was given the example of a satellite. Perhaps, the Minister may wish to look at that proposal.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding rural electrification, I listened very carefully to Mr. Sambu yesterday. He thanked the Government for undertaking rural electrification in his area under the Spanish Scheme. He said that he is now waiting for the French Scheme. I would like to say that we have never seen any Spanish, French or any other scheme in Mwingi District. The last time we had any semblance of rural electrification was in 1982. That was a long time ago. Today, in my constituency, you will be surprised to see some markets with one side of the road with power, and the other side without. I request the Minister to ensure that, if a town has power, the whole town has power. It should not be done on one side of the road. It was done in 1982 and three years later, development took place. Therefore, no further extension of power was done. I think it is unfair for one side of town to have power and the other one does not. The same applies to Mwingi town. Some people even use kerosene lamps in the "city" of Mwingi because the Rural Electrification Programme covered a very small portion. Those are issues that the District Development Committee (DDC) of Mwingi has addressed. But since I know the Minister is very strict on the proposals that come from DDCs, I am sure he will take that very seriously. I want to urge the Minister to ensure that Mwingi District is covered by the Rural Electrification Programme.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said before that my district, compared to other districts, is marginalised in terms of water and many other areas. We have been marginalised in terms of water, roads and rural electrification. I hope that with the start of the new phase, and with the current Minister, we will receive some power.

But having said that, let me mention that there are two projects that have been in the official plans of the Ministry of Energy for a long time. They are Koome, Nzeluni and Thitani secondary schools. If you look at the approved plans for the 2002/2003 financial year, those two projects were reflected. I was told that Thitani Secondary School Project was allocated Kshs4 million in the last financial year and money was paid to the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC). To date, nothing has been done by KPLC. KPLC has been talked about by virtually every hon. Member who has spoken here. I would like to join them by saying that the biggest problem confronting the Ministry of Energy is KPLC. It is a very inefficient organisation. Someone may tell me that they made some profits this year. If the Ministry wants to make any progress in accelerating rural development in accordance with the plans that we have today, something must be done to ensure

that, it is not KPLC that is implementing the Rural Electrification Programme. If a very small programme [Mr. Musila] costing about Kshs4 million cannot be implemented by KPLC for a year, how do we expect them to do projects worth millions of shillings?

KPLC is giving people huge price estimates whenever they want to extend power. It has not changed. That company used to syphon a lot of money from members of the public. Those are the days that whatever KPLC purchased, from poles to transformers, had an element of 10 per cent of whatever cost, as somebody's cut! We have come a long way from that direction. Therefore, I urge that a new system of cost estimates be devised, now that we have a new team in the Ministry. I think they are still living in previous years, where a pole cost Kshs69,000. We know very well that it cannot cost more than Kshs10,000. But because of that mark up that we knew was going on, and which we believe has ceased since then, we expect that the price of implementing those projects would now be in accordance---

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Khamasi): Order! Order!

Mr. Musila: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for reminding my colleagues about that.

Finally, I want to say that, it is time the Ministry of Energy lived today, as far as the implementation of projects is concerned. They should reduce the estimates, so that more people could have access to that important source of power.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Ogur: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Gogo, Nyatike, we have ready electricity. You only have to add a little megawatts and poles to stretch to Muhuru Bay and Karungu Bay towns to supply health centres and secondary schools. We have power, but it is diverted to Kamagambo and Awendo Sugar companies. But sugar does not rot like my fish. My people carry their bicycles for more than 60 kilometres to have them repaired. The colonialists came to dig our gold and copper using electricity. But immediately we had Independence, we lost our electricity to the neighbouring constituencies. How can electricity poles be brought from Kisii to the border of Nyatike and Ndhiwa? What discrimination is this? Other areas have nothing which can rot as fast as my fish, and yet these areas need my fish? Sugar-cane does not rot like fish!

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a time when two Ministers were put in the Ministry of Energy but they both left without assisting my people. Then, the young man, hon. Ochilo-Ayacko was appointed to the Ministry, but he also left without helping my people. Now, I am lucky, I have mzee Simeon, I am not going to miss this time, because the poles have reached my border with hon. Ojode. I only need a few poles to reach Sori and Muhuru Bay towns.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, how can my whole constituency lack power? When shall we see light? We had power during the colonial era. When KANU came to power, they took it away. During the reign of NARC, we are almost getting it. When we have fish, we can store it in refrigerators for a long time. No Asian will harass our people to sell the fish quickly and cheaply to him because it will rot. Why does our Government support *Mhindi* to buy our fish cheaply? This is wrong.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me now talk about other developments. We miss a lot of things like police or prison recruitments. But when we have power, we will be making a lot of things on our own. We shall use our Constituency Development Fund (CDF) to build village polytechnics. If the Ministry gives us power, we will create jobs and be self-reliant. We will be like

others.

With those remarks, I beg to support, but "with strings attached".

The Minister for Planning and National Development (Prof. Anyang-Nyong'o): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also beg to support this Motion. We may differ with my colleague on a few things, but when it comes to development, we are friends at once.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Energy must go beyond the era of problem solving to the era of investment expansion. My Cabinet colleague being a business person and an entrepreneur knows this very well. I notice that in the House is also his Permanent Secretary, Mr. Patrick Nyoike, the Managing Director of KenGen, Mr. Eddy Njoroge and Mr. Don Riara from the Ministry. These are very capable civil servants who should take this Ministry to greater heights.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no God-given rule whatsoever that should consign the Ministry of Energy to using poles whose life expectancy is less than six years, rather than using concrete or other materials whose life expectancy can be more than 20 years. It makes much more economic sense to invest in a capacity building exercise to use durable materials for passing electricity around in this country. I am horrified that we are still doing things that were done during colonial times, more than 40 years after our Independence.

One of the reasons why KenGen and KPLC are trapped in a vicious cycle of insolvency or poor performance is because they have never gone beyond being enterprises simply serving through Recurrent Expenditures instead of being enterprises that can invest and expand. There is really no difference between what ESKOM in South Africa has been doing and what KPLC and Ken-Gen can do together. There is no difference between what Petroleum Industry of India, a Government company with a business turn-over of close to USA\$20 billion and what Kenya Pipeline Company can do. Kenyans have the manpower and the knowledge to do what these companies have done. All that we have done is to be trapped in a vicious cycle of problem-solving and not to go into the era of investment expansion.

I believe that under the leadership of hon. Nyachae, who is a business person, that these enterprises can rise to higher levels and help us develop this nation and create jobs, by doing what ESKOM in South Africa is doing in the case of KPLC and KenGen, and what the Petroleum Industry of India is doing in the case of the Kenya Pipeline Company.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as hon. Ogur and the Minister himself said, without energy, our agricultural sector will never develop. We need energy for higher productivity in agriculture. We can no longer develop with a hoe-wielding peasantry in the rural areas. We need tractors. But in order to have tractors, the diesel must be affordable. We need value addition in agriculture like hon. Ogur has said. Without energy, we cannot have that value addition.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, unless these enterprises like the KPLC, KenGen and the KPC begin thinking of expanding investments or having a growing business turn-over every year, we shall never do this. There is no need to have Mr. Eddy Njoroge in KenGen for five years if after five years, he cannot show a higher business turn over than when he started. Mr. Eddy Njoroge's emoluments should be tied to the growth of business turn-over of the KenGen and not the number of people that he is employing.

We in this nation should stop the mentality of depending on the IMF, World Bank and the African Development Bank. What the IMF and the World Bank did in reconstructing Europe when they were really committed to reconstruction and development is not what they are doing in Africa at the moment. In Africa, they are much more engaged in giving us loans with all kind of complicated procedures, which take years and years to implement and they tire our Ministers and civil servants.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we must go into the era of private/public partnership

where we can engage commercial banks such as the Axiom Bank of India, the Axiom Bank of New York and others. We should also get other development partners in the business sector who will partner with Kenyans to develop our nation. The revenue base of our nation is very good. In this region, taxation accounts for 21 per cent of the Gross Domestic Growth (GDP), which is very high. That is not the case in Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia. So, in terms of collecting revenue, given the fact that we are now trying to implement certain efficiency gains in collecting revenue, we have a resource to use for investment. If we can do this effectively, we do not need to be enslaved to the bureaucratic lethargy of the World Bank and the IMF. These banks must wake up to their mission that was established after the Second World War. They should do what they did in Europe and Africa today. As I speak, the World Bank has called within itself a review process and the people reviewing it have found out that it has become an albatross around Africa rather than a real development partner. When I go down the line of history and see the kind of recommendations that they have made to our energy sector over the last ten years, I pity ourselves. However, we can rise out of it and do what other countries like India and Malaysia have done and, indeed, be the energy powerhouse of this continent.

To take one simple example of gaining efficiency, in 2001, I was in Zanzibar and I was staying in a very simple hotel. I found out that in that hotel they pay for their energy in a very simple way. They just have something like a scratch card and they fit it somewhere after paying some money. When it is over, they buy another one. In this country, 40 years after Independence, we still have to employ people who come on motorcycles to take our meter readings. Sometimes they guess and give you a higher bill. They are a nuisance to the customers, the KPLC and the whole economic growth of this country. It is no rocket science that the KPLC can be efficient in its way of billing people in this country. There is no need of waiting until we are debating the Vote of the Ministry of Energy to do this. These are things that the KPLC can do by understanding that there is something called efficiency games.

Secondly, it is important for the KPLC to go out and look for customers and not to sit there and wait for customers to come and pay them. There is a huge market out there in this nation of lighting highways, for example, the Mombasa-Busia Highway. That highway is not lit at all. That is a big market for the KPLC to make money rather than wait for Ms. Esther Passaris to begin the Adopt a Light business. This is a business that the KPLC should have started a long time ago. Now, Ms. Passaris has been doing and the City Council of Nairobi is bothering her. We have never seen any one day when the KPLC has called her and told her: "Let us sit down and have a business partnership", and yet we are talking about private/public partnership. We have a private sector in this country which is showing the KPLC what it should do, but the KPLC like a *puh* or a *kiwete*, just sits there to be approached. This is no rocket science. We in the Cabinet are tired of seeing parastatals being so totally unimaginative and not helping us to create wealth and provide employment for our people.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the KPLC has potential customers everywhere. Today, in my office, some young men came with proposals for wind power. They have done a whole feasibility study. They have gone to Total and other companies, but they are saying that when they go to the KPLC, there is no marketing division that looks at diversification of the investments of the KPLC. Why is it that the KPLC, for 40 years, has only been selling electricity that it generates from very expensive diesel powered generators when there is a huge potential of wind power from the private sector? Why can the KPLC not start a division of nurturing entrepreneurship for people who want to use windmill, for example? Is there any division in KenGen and the KPLC which is there to nurture potential investors in this area?

We have students who have studied electricity at the University of Nairobi. We have so

many of them with good knowledge in *Jua Kali* to partner with the KPLC. All that KenGen and the KPLC are waiting for is for a World Bank mission to come to Kenya. They want hon. Nyachae to think for them. Hon. Nyachae is just there to pronounce big policies. It is for them now to market the policies.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Mr. Moroto: Ahsante sana, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa kunipatia nafasi ili nami nichangie Hoja iliyo mbele yetu.

Ninaungana na wenzangu kumpongeza Waziri, hon. Nyachae, na maofisa wake kwa mpangilio ambao wametupatia. Katika Kenya, tumebarikiwa na tuna watu ambao wamesoma na wenye ujuzi wa kutosha. Wanajua kuandika na kupanga mambo vizuri, lakini wanapojaribu kufanyisha huo ujuzi kazi, inakuwa kama matope. Mawaziri wamekuwa wakitupatia tumaini ya hali ya juu sana lakini mwishowe, inakuwa bure tu. Ningetaka kumuomba Waziri atekeleze yale mambo ambayo ameahidi kutekeleza.

Waziri alipokuwa akitoa hotuba yake hapa, Wakenya wote walikuwa wakimsikiza na wengi wao walimpongeza sana. Jana, watu wa Kapenguria waliniipigia simu wakaniambia kwamba kama Waziri atatekeleza haya mambo, watafaidika sana.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, watumishi wa Serikali huko Kapenguria wameonyesha ubaguzi mwingi dhidi ya watu wetu. Nataka kurekebisha jambo ambalo lilisemwa na mhe. Mbunge mwenzangu kuhusu Turkwell Gorge. Mradi huu uko katika sehemu ya Kapenguria lakini tuna majirani kama vile Kacheliba, Turkana Kusini na Sigor. Ajabu ni kwamba kuna nguvu za umeme katika makazi ya wafanyakazi wa KPLC, KVDA na Wizara. Ukienda mbele kidogo, ambapo kuna shule, ni giza. Hata ukifika Kainuk ni giza! Tulikuwa tumeogopa kwamba tungekatazwa huduma kama vile shule. Hata kule juu hakuna stima. Tumeshangaa sana kuona watumishi hawa wa Serikali wakitunyima huduma muhimu. Kwa mfano, kuna hospitali pale Turkwell ambayo inawahudumia wafanyakazi hawa na jamaa zao. Hospitali hii ina nguvu za umeme. Lakini watu wetu wanatumia kuni kwa sababu hawana mahali pa kununua mafuta taa wakati wa usiku. Ningemuomba Waziri na maofisa wake, ambao wako hapa, waliangalie jambo hilo. Nina hakika kwamba watakubaliana nami kwamba watu wetu hawapati huduma zozote kutoka kwa mradi huu.

Kuna jambo moja ambalo limetusikitisha kule kwa sababu tunajua kwamba Turkwell ni mradi ambao unatoa nguvu za umeme na unasaidia nchi hii yetu. Wale walioanzisha mradi huu - naamini hata wengine wao wako hapa - hawakujali maslahi ya wale watu wanaoshi katika sehemu kama Sigor Centre na Ortum, ambapo kuna mtu ambaye anachimba malighafi ya kutengeneza saruji. Malighafi hiyo husafirishwa kutoka Ortum hadi Tororo, Uganda. Wafanyabiashara hao wanahitaji nguvu za umeme ili wajenge kiwanda cha kutengeza saruji. Kutoka Kapenguria Town, ambapo kuna nguvu za umeme, ni umbali wa kilomita 15. Lakini kwa sababu watumishi hawa hawajali maslahi ya watu wetu, wanaona kama ni upuzi kuwapatia wale wanaochimba hayo madini nguvu za umeme. Pale Ortum, kuna hospitali kubwa ya Kanisa Katoliki ambayo imesaidia watu wengi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ni kwa nini tunalalamika kwamba watumishi hawa wa Serikali wameonyesha ubaguzi mkubwa dhidi ya watu wetu? Ukienda kwenye mpaka wa West Pokot na Trans Nzoia, kuna sehemu inayoitwa Kesegon. Baada ya kupita tu mpaka wa wilaya hizi mbili, kuna sehemu inayoitwa Murkujit. Kuna nguvu za umeme kule Kesegon, lakini ukienda kwenye wilaya jirani, ambapo unaweza kuona maduka upande ule mwingine, hakuna nguvu za umeme. Tunajuliza ni kwa nini ubaguzi huu unatendeka? Ubaguzi huu ndio unaosababisha vita kati ya watu wetu na Wilaya ya Trans Nzoia. Ikiwa sehemu nyingine inafaidika na sehemu nyingine haiendelei, je, watu hao watawumilia dhuluma hizo? Serikali imewagonganisha majirani wanaoishi pamoja. Mtu akitaka kutengeneza baiskeli, au jembe ambalo limevunjika wakati yuko shambani, ni lazima

aende mpaka Kesegon ambapo kuna nguvu za umeme. Murkujit ambayo ipo karibu haina nguvu za umeme. Tunaona kuwa hili ni jambo moja linalotuumiza.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ukitoka sehemu Chepareria, ambayo iko Kapenguria, kuna shule ya upili inayoitwa Chepkorniswo ambayo iko umbali wa kama kilomita mbili na nusu. Vile vile, kuna kituo cha biashara pale. Kuna nguvu za umeme katika Chepareria. Pia kuna shule ya malazi ya wasichana katika Chepareria. Shule ya upili ya Chepkorniswo ni ya wavulana. Wasichana wanatumia nguvu za umeme ilhali wenzao katika Chepkorniswo hawana nguvu za umeme. Watoto hawa wanafikiria Serikali yao inawafanyia nini? Tunamheshimu Waziri wa Kawi sana kwa sababu yeye ni mzee ambaye amefanya kazi katika hii Serikali kwa muda mrefu. Kama vile Bw. Ogur alivyosema, tunatumaini kwamba atatekeleza miradi hii yote. Huenda ikawa wale waliomtangulia walikuwa na nia tofauti. Lakini mzee kama huyu ana nia gani isipokuwa kuwaona wajukuu wake wakiendelea?

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, ninaiomba Wizara hii iwaelemishe watu wetu kutumia mbinu nyingine za kupata nguvu za umeme kama vile upepo. Kuna sehemu nyingi katika Wilaya ya Turkana, na Mkoa wa Kaskazini Mashariki, ambazo zina upepo mwingi. Juzi tulitembea kule Ujerumani na sehemu nyingine. Kuna sehemu ambapo sasa hawatumi waya za kupita juu au maji kutoa nguvu za umeme. Ukienda kule West Pokot, mradi huu wa Turkwell umechukua maji yote kupitia Mto Suam. Tukitaka kutumia maji hayo kunyunyizia mashamba yetu, au kuwanyweshwa mifugo wetu, tunaambia kuwa tulifanya ziwa likauke. Kwa nini tuendelee kutumia maji kutoa nguvu za umeme ilhali kuna upepo wa kutosha ambao unaweza kutosheleza hii nchi?

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, tumebarikiwa na Mungu anaipenda sana Kenya. Lakini watumishi wa Serikali ambao wamepatiwa jukumu la kuwaongoza Wakenya hawatumi maarifa yao. Wanatumia vyeo vyao kujinufaisha wao wenyewe. Kwa mfano, baada ya kuajiriwa kazi, wanaanza kujenga nyumba za ghorofa. Kuna wenzetu wengine ambao sasa ni Mawaziri. Bunge lililopita tulikuwa tukiombana Kshs100 hapa ndani. Lakini ukiangalia hapa sasa, utapata kuwa wengine wamejenga nyumba za ghorofa. Ukipita karibu, utafikiri kuwa zimejengwa kwa pesa za miradi fulani. Mtu akiajiriwa anatafuta mbinu za kujinufaisha huku wananchi wakiteseka. Siku moja tutauliza swali hapa ndani ili tujue watu hao walipata wapi utajiri wa haraka wa kujenga nyumba. Juzi tuliagizwa kutangaza mali yetu. Hiyo ni karatasi ambayo mtu anaandika na kuweka. Lakini watu hawa wanatoa wapi utajiri huu wa ghafla? Jambo muhimu kwa watumishi wa Serikali katika nchi hii ni kuwa Mungu amewapa jukumu la kuwatumikia watu wake.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono.

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

[Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair]

Dr. Kibunguchy: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this chance to also contribute to this very important Motion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will start off by talking about an issue that is very dear to us in Lugari. This is the problem of the charcoal industry. However, before I touch on it, we are all aware that most of our rural households use firewood for cooking and heating. Most of us are concerned about electricity. However, when we talk about energy in general, the majority of our households in the urban areas use charcoal for cooking and heating. The problem with the charcoal industry in this country is very well known. To begin with, the production and transportation of charcoal, through various pronouncements and Gazette notices, is an illegal thing yet the usage of the charcoal is

acceptable. This is something that puts the industry in such an awkward situation. Some studies have shown that the annual turnover that is in this industry is as high as Kshs32 billion. I am sure that the Ministry is aware that this is an industry that has not been recognised. The majority of our people depend on this industry because they are poor and yet the Ministry has not seen it fit to move in and regularise it. I would like to root for this industry because, again, studies have shown that almost five million Kenyans depend on this industry, either directly or indirectly for their daily livelihood. I do not know why the Government saw it fit to make it illegal, in terms of production and transportation, when it is acceptable. I am sure that in most of our homes we use charcoal in one way or the other.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, studies have also shown that most of the wood that goes into the production of charcoal does not come from the Government forests as it is probably routinely expected or thought to be. Most of the wood that is used to produce charcoal comes from people's farms and yet the Government does not allow these same people, who have grown their trees for many years, to fell them and produce charcoal. This is something I would like the Minister to consider as he replies to this debate. For sure, this industry needs to be regulated and regularised, so that it can start generating revenue for the Exchequer. If tax is levied on the Kshs32 billion, so much money would go to the Exchequer.

When we talk about wood fuel, the Ministry and the related departments should move in to promote the usage of technology that either uses less wood fuel or less charcoal. I am glad that the Minister touched on this point. Such technology is now available in the market, but it has not been popularised or promoted. I think the Ministry is in a vantage position to do so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention something about alternative sources of energy. I know that most of my colleagues have talked about this concept. This is a subject that is very dear to me because, where I come from and in my own home, I use all these alternative sources of energy in one way or the other. I know that it is possible that we can popularise the use of solar systems and wind energy. The Ministry needs to put in a lot more resources in exploring the widespread use of these alternative sources of energy.

The other day, as I was reading through the newspapers, I was delighted to see a certain community, in a village in Meru, generating electricity from a very small stream. This shows that it is possible to establish micro hydro-power stations that the Minister talked about. Where I come from, we do not just have streams, but big rivers. Rather than relying on the traditional areas for hydro-power production, the Minister should move in and see certain areas where mini and micro hydro-power plants can be started.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me finish by mentioning the issue of rural electrification which most of my colleagues have talked about. The system of providing rural electrification seems to be improving slightly but, in most of the places we come from, we are still disadvantaged. Ever since I came to Parliament, we have not had even a single rural electrification project in Lugari Constituency. I would like to urge the Minister to look at the areas that have not benefited from the Rural Electrification Programme over the years so that they can be given some kind of affirmative action.

There are some community groups in my constituency which paid 10 per cent of the cost of installing electricity in their areas to the Kenya Power and Lighting Company. Some of them paid that fee ten years ago but, up to now, no action has gone towards providing electricity to these groups. This is a matter of great concern to those people. They always come to me crying, wanting to know the fate of the money they paid to the Kenya Power and Lighting Company.

We have all seen the benefits of the Rural Electrification Programme. I would like to root for computer studies in our schools because the future of this country, and that of any other nation,

lies in information technology.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Kaindi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Minister for Energy, for eloquently moving this Vote.

I want to start by agreeing with my colleagues that rural electrification is the key and basis for rural development. Therefore, if we are talking about transforming the rural areas we must, of necessity, start by providing electricity to those areas. We cannot develop small-scale cottage industries without sufficient power base.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what has happened over the years is that we have seen - as many hon. Members have alluded to - many groups of people in the rural areas who have paid token deposits to the Kenya Power and Lighting Company but, to date, all they can show for that money are the payment receipts issued to them by the company. The Minister should put mechanisms in place to see how he can redeem those people. Every time we meet them in the constituencies, they ask us what happened to the money they paid to the Kenya Power and Lighting Company.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to agree with Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o, that the Kenya Power and Lighting Company and the Ministry of Energy need to look at the provision of energy as an investment. They need to go further and look into this sector in terms of planning. The Ministry and the Kenya Power and Lighting Company need to synchronise their planning with the urban planning being undertaken by local authorities countrywide, so that they can do projections in advance to determine where power will be needed. It is no use for people to put up buildings and then go to queue at the premises of the Kenya Power and Lighting Company to demand for electricity. It is only fair that the Ministry gives policy directives which will ensure that the parastatal is responsive to the needs of the people. Consider the constant power-cuts and yet the parastatal has no courtesy whatsoever even to apologise to Kenyans! In one evening, you can experience as many as four power-cuts lasting 30 minutes. Therefore, the Ministry needs to direct the parastatal to revamp its public relations department to the extent that it can be responsive to Kenyans. Be men enough to say: "We are sorry that you are experiencing these power cuts." Then, Kenyans can take you seriously and have faith in you as investors.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, up to today, this Ministry needs to demystify the transformers; how they are procured, sourced and why the bigger part must be pegged on the customer's bill. This is because today if you put up a couple of flats and you are unfortunate that there is not enough power nearby - and those in the housing sector know it - you will be told: We cannot do it unless you pay this amount of money, so that we can provide a transformer and be able to supply you with power. This is like a double entry in terms of costs, because you expect the Kenya Power and Lightning Company (KPLC) to provide the infrastructure. Why can the Ministry not discuss and issue a policy statement where the KPLC provides the infrastructure and Kenyans will only tap from them? We have faith in the Minister and we know that things will change.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, turning to the criteria for providing power, the Ministry needs to be transparent enough and tell us: "This is the backlog since those yesteryears, and this is where we are today," so that we can develop a human face to Kenyans, for example from my constituency, who paid money to the KPLC ten years ago, and yet, they have not received a single response in terms of priorities. I think the Ministry needs to communicate and make it transparent. It is of no use to the Ministry to develop policy papers and programmes which are not known to Kenyans. I think it is only fair that we insist that the Ministry be responsive to the plight of the Kenyans.

In an area like Athi River, which I represent, we have so many industries coming up and so many people in Nairobi now are finding residence there. It is a potential area where we have a lot of customers, and yet, the KPLC waits until one applies to be supplied with electricity. This process

takes a very long time. Why can the Ministry not come up with a privatisation programme of the KPLC, so that it can help Kenyans?

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

Mr. Kimeto: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. Energy is very much required in this nation. If it could be supplied to all parts of this country, we would be very rich. If the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Agriculture could work closely together, we would achieve a lot. We would not import food anymore because we would pump a lot of water for irrigation using electricity.

Secondly, if every household was connected to electricity, deforestation would be a thing of the past. In countries like Canada, where electricity is used in every home, there is minimal cutting of trees, because there is no need for wood fuel. Therefore, electricity supply should be increased in this country, so that we can save our forests and trees that are cut to provide wood fuel. The Minister should, therefore, come up with a policy to ensure that every village in this country is supplied with electricity. If our villages were supplied with electricity, the *Jua Kali* sector would be promoted. The sector would then produce goods that could be exported to other countries as opposed to the case now where we import many goods that could be produced locally.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, because of lack of electricity in many schools, especially in the rural areas, the quality of education has been affected in those areas, compared to those in urban centres. So, we need to supply all schools in rural areas with electricity so that students can get acquainted with its use. This will help them to make use of the current information technology effectively.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many health centres in rural areas are not supplied with electricity. Nurses use kerosene lamps to light up the health centres. These centres should be supplied with electricity, so that patients can be treated effectively.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we could use electric fences in our game reserves and parks, we would protect our wildlife better. In turn, we would have many tourists visiting those game parks and reserves, hence, earning this country a lot of foreign exchange. Why can we not think of fencing our game parks and reserves using electricity? Why not use electric fences to surround game parks in this country? By doing that, there will be no human/animal conflict. Our animals, forests and farms will be safe.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, electricity can make our youths in schools go to the moon just like the Americans. Let us use electricity in all our spheres. Let us set aside some money for electrification.

With those few remarks, I beg to support this Motion and request Mr. Nyachae to take into account my comments!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Kimeto! That is enough! You must learn! When the Chair says that your time is over, it is over!

Now, hon. Members, I am sorry I have to call the Minister to reply.

Mr. Minister, please, proceed!

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. With your permission, I would like to donate three minutes to Mr. Wambora. After that, I will reply.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well. Mr. Wambora, please, proceed!

Mr. Wambora: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I also wish to thank the Minister. I will be very brief. I wish to take this opportunity to support this Motion. It focuses on a very critical utility. Infrastructure, power, roads and telecommunications form the backbone of our economy. So, to me, it is very clear how important that sector is. May I also take this opportunity to commend the

Minister for Energy for his foresight and focus on one of the four pillars of Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS). He has focused on investing in the most progressive sectors of the economy. I have in mind the coffee sector. That focus is very important.

May I also congratulate the Ministry for mobilising funds, not just from the Kenyan Government, but also from development partners. I think that is the right direction. Thirdly, I would like to congratulate KenGen's Board of Directors for having a visionary leadership and deciding on the bold move of privatisation. I can see the Managing Director here. That is the way to go. I feel strongly that Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) should have preceded KenGen in doing that.

Having said that, may I go quickly to four handicaps which I think should be addressed. One of them is the cost of energy. We are comparing ourselves to South Africa and Egypt. Everything should be done to bring the cost of energy down, so that we can be competitive. It is no wonder that our direct foreign investment has gone down. There are other factors which have led to that. In the 1960s and 1970s, we used to have so much foreign investments. That has dwindled since 1980s because of poor governance by the previous regime, high cost of energy and poor conditions of our roads.

Secondly, there is inefficiency at KPLC. I can say that because I have so many customers from Runyenjes Constituency who have applied for power and, up to now, they have not been connected.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Wambora, I am reminded that your three minutes are over!

Mr Wambora: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, there is under-utilisation of [Mr. Wambora]

Government of Kenya funds for rural electrification. We are saying that those funds can, as well, be brought under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), so that we can utilise them.

Ahsante sana.

I support the Motion.

Mr Deputy Speaker: Proceed, Mr. Minister!

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

QUORUM

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Minister is about to reply on a very important Motion. We are about to go to the Committee Stage. We have already been accused of passing big Votes without a quorum in the House. Would I be in order to inform the Chair that there is no quorum? We should ring the Division Bell, so that hon. Members can come and listen to the Minister replying to their questions. That way, we will have enough Members to pass this Vote.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well! I am informed that there is no quorum. Is that so Mr. Clerk? There is no quorum. Ring the Division Bell!

(The Division Bell was rung)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! We now have a quorum! Proceed, Mr. Minister!

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I would like to thank hon. Members for making various observations and expressing their expectations from the Ministry of Energy. I would like to thank hon. Members for making encouraging observations. There was nothing negative said about what we are doing. If

anything, we were being advised on how we can improve our performance. That is very encouraging.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to move fairly fast because the issues covered are many. May I start with the performance of KPLC. I would like to assure hon. Members that they have raised valid issues. There is a lot of room for improvement at KPLC. Indeed, right now, we have consultants working at the KPLC; to reorganise it and bring efficiency. I am sure that in some cases, hon. Members have friends who work at KPLC. We are getting tougher with them and they may want protection. Do not give them protection when it comes to demanding efficiency.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is true that there has been a lot of delay in implementation of programmes by the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and we should not deny this reality. I want to assure hon. Members that, whatever excuses the KPLC may have had in the past, the Ministry has now authorised it that if it is short of technical personnel, it should contract out work so that implementation of programmes is undertaken quickly. We have a lot of trained personnel in electrical work and, therefore, contracting out work is no longer restricted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we also know that there is a lot of money which has been deposited by various customers which is still being held by KPLC. I have issued instructions that, if KPLC is not ready to implement the programmes, it should inform the customers when it is going to do them. If it does not have clear programmes, KPLC should refund the money to the customers until it is ready to implement them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need to appreciate the fact that the demand for electricity is going up by the day and it is not very easy to fulfil everything as required because, in the past, we never paid attention to the fact that electricity would be needed. However, now electricity is required in every school, health centre, dispensary, marketplaces and everywhere and this means there is pressure but we must do everything possible to supply it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me also touch on the question of petroleum exploration. This is something which has been going on for the last 50 years and, for some reasons which I do not want to go into here now, in the late 1970s, the oil companies which were doing exploration withdrew one by one. By 1993, we did not have oil exploration really going on in those areas where we wanted it to be done. However, I must report now that we have some very serious oil exploration companies in the country. One of them is Goodside from Australia. We have also entered into negotiations with a Chinese company, which are about to be completed which is also going to be involved in oil exploration. We do believe that the idea of going to the East is also working because Sudan, which had Western oil companies exploring oil for many years, did not discover any oil there. Only six years ago, they brought in Eastern companies and they have already discovered a lot of oil and Sudan now has three oil refineries of their own. So, we know that the basin in Southern Sudan extends to our side and, therefore, it would not be unreasonable to say that we must be having oil underground on our side as well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the case of coal drilling, it is a fact that we have coal in Mui Basin which covers Kitui and Mwingi districts. The preliminary assessments which we have done indicate that we have a lot of coal there. Now, we have gone ahead and awarded contracts for commercial assessments to be done. Now, it is true that this process has been slow because we have heard people asking us whether we have carried out environmental impact assessment tests before embarking on such a venture. Kenyans are crazy when it comes to environmental issues and yet coal is being produced in other countries and yet nobody complains about environmental issues. When we start doing it here, we are asked: "Have you carried out an environmental impact assessment test?" We will go ahead and we can discuss environmental issues later. Coal will be the cheapest source of power supply in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was mention about KenGen and buying of shares in it. The fact remains that we, in the Ministry and KenGen, are all Kenyans and we love our country. I want to assure this House that we are not going to give priority, in terms of buying shares, to foreigners before we consider our people. It is as simple as that and, therefore, all I can do is to appeal to hon. Members and Kenyans that, once this exercise goes to the public, Kenyans should come forward and buy shares. We cannot go to their houses but we are asking them to be ready. I think that is extremely important.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was talk about solar energy. We are already working on solar energy. Right now, as I speak here, we are supplying solar energy in the ASAL areas to 16 schools and we have another programme which is going to cover another 24 schools. Therefore, we know that solar energy is very useful.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the case of wind energy, it is true that we are encouraging private investors to come in and get involved in wind energy production. In fact, the survey that has been done in the past shows that there is a lot of wind energy that can be produced from the Marsabit Plateau because there is too much wind blowing from this place to the Indian Ocean.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also important to appreciate the fact that power from the national grid cannot reach everywhere. Some areas are remote. For instance, we cannot place North Eastern Province on the national grid immediately but, due to the high demand, we are planning to replace the generating systems which are there at present so that more power can be produced from those generators. In other words, we intend to replace the existing ones with stronger ones.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one hon. Member said that the oil pipeline should be extended all the way to the Kenya/Uganda border. In reality, his demand has been overtaken by events since we have already reached an arrangement with the Government of Uganda to extend the oil pipeline all the way to Kampala. In fact, a consortium of investors has also been invited. That will, therefore, cover the requirements of the countries that border us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, concerning Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), we are at an advanced stage. At the Port of Mombasa, a site has already been found to establish an LPG storage filter. We are also making plans to ensure that there is a system of bottling the LPG in Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru, Eldoret, Kisumu and other towns. Work is already in progress and we believe this will also link us to the gas that is being talked about in Tanzania, at a place called Sungusungu Island because plenty of gas has been discovered there. We are already discussing with Tanzania and we shall be writing a proposal to them so that they can allow us to get their gas by pipeline from Arusha where the generation plant will be set up. We intend to transmit the gas from Arusha through Namanga to Kenya. This is truly an exercise that we have discussed with the Tanzanian Government and we are already talking to the World Bank to see whether they can assist us because the process might require a substantial amount of electricity, hence money.

With regard to the high prices of oil, this subject is a very complicated one and it is definitely beyond the reach of the Ministry to say that it will do this and that to control the prices. We can only control the prices by talking to the multinationals if we realise that their margins are too high. Otherwise, we cannot control the world oil prices. A month ago, I was in the United Kingdom (UK) and I saw, on a whole day, a demonstration by transporters concerning the high oil prices. They were demanding that the prices be brought down. The following day I wanted to find out from the UK Government whether it had reduced the prices as a result of the demonstration, but the answer I got is: "We cannot reduce the prices because these are world prices".

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, another thing, which I think must be understood by Kenyans, is that China is taking more oil now due to great demand and, therefore, they are buying the oil at whatever price.

The problems in southern USA have also contributed to the high price of oil. After Hurricane Katrina hit the area, 29 oil refineries were shut down. Now, that means that the oil that USA was using from the southern part has to come from elsewhere. Of course, that triggers the price of oil to go up.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Members talked about supply of electricity to homes. However, as a policy of the Kenya Government, the subsidy that we are extending for rural electrification is very specific. It is actually meant for schools, health centres, market-places, the *Jua Kali* sector and other public utilities. However, if you want to tap power as an individual from those market places, then the cost per unit will be different from what we charge the public sector. That is the definite policy of the Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to how we select projects to embark on, every year, there is a circular in each district that requires the DDC to give us five priority projects for implementation. This, then, means that hon. Members need to go to their DDCs. There are times when hon. Members have come to see me---

Mr. Mwenje: Do DDCs exist?

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not going to reply to people seated behind me! I am only answerable to you as I stand here. So, the truth of the matter is that the procedure that we follow requires us to work through the DDCs.

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. As much as I respect the Minister who, in fact, started DDCs many years ago, is he in order to refer to DDCs when we know that they are non-existent? Here in Nairobi, the DDC has never met for the last five years. Is the Minister in order to refer to non-existent bodies?

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether I should answer that question or not. However, the truth of the matter is that if certain DDCs are not working it is not my business to run them! When I started them, I was the Chief Secretary. Now, I am the Minister for Energy. Therefore, matters to do with DDCs are not my business. However, I can confirm to this House that DDCs do exist. After all, we get their minutes and they give us their priorities. If your DDC is dead, please, try to resuscitate it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was talk about money being retained by the KPLC. That money, which is 5 per cent of the total cost of electrification, is no longer being retained by KPLC. The money is now transmitted to the Treasury and it is the money used to generate the subsidy that is used in supporting rural electrification.

One hon. Member talked about lack of initiative by the Ministry with regard to wood fuel development. It is not that we lack initiative. What we are working on is economical use of fuel. We are even working with NGOs on the economic usage of wood fuel. However, I would not like to promise this House that private firms can produce charcoal and so on. It is our responsibility, including the private farmers, to look after the environment and trees. It is not only for the Government to look after the environment and trees. We all have a responsibility to protect the forests.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to the use of Petroleum Development Levy Funds for Recurrent Expenditure, this has to be done in collaboration with this House and the Treasury. We are following the laid down procedures.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know I cannot cover everything that was raised by hon. Members within this short time that I have been given. However, I would like to inform the hon. Member who talked about the need for us to encourage sugar-cane mills to produce electricity that we are already doing that. Right now, as I talk to you, Mumias Sugar Company is actually supplying two megawatts to the national grid in addition to what they are using. In fact, we do not supply them

with electricity any more. If other mills are ready to generate power, we will encourage them fully, and there will be no problems about it.

In the past, there used to be a lot of talk about use of electric energy, yet most people did not know it would be a key to everything that we do. We need the energy in schools, homes and hospitals. We cannot operate computers, run this House or pump water without using electricity. In most things that we do, we need to use electricity. Therefore, it is extremely important that you give us your support, wherever you are, by promoting the use of electric power, so that it is given priority by everybody in this country.

I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

*[The Temporary Deputy Chairman
(Mr. Khamasi) took the Chair]*

Vote 30 - The Ministry of Energy

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Temporary Deputy Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

That, a sum not exceeding Kshs642,865,500 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2006, in respect of:-

Vote 30 - The Ministry of Energy

(Question proposed)

VOTE R30 - RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 300 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 428, 429 and 574 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 300 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 301 - RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 430 and 433 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 301 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 302 - ELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 435 and 436 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 302 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 303 - PETROLEUM EXPLORATION AND SUBSTITUTION

(Head 427 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 303 agreed to)

(Vote R30 agreed to)

VOTE D30 -
DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

SUB-VOTE 300 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

(Heads 428 and 429 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 300 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 301 - RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 430 and 433 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 301 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 302 - ELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT

(Heads 435, 436 and 444 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 302 agreed to)

SUB-VOTE 303 - PETROLEUM EXPLORATION AND SUBSTITUTION

(Heads 426 and 427 agreed to)

(Sub-Vote 303 agreed to)

(Vote D30 agreed to)

(Question put and agreed to)

*(Resolution to be reported
without amendment)*

(The House resumed)

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

REPORT

VOTE 30 - MINISTRY OF ENERGY

Mr. Khamasi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am directed to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Resolution that a sum not exceeding Kshs642,865,500 be issued from the Consolidated Fund to complete the sum necessary to meet expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2006, in respect of Vote - 30 Ministry of Energy, and has approved the same without amendment.

The Minister for Energy (Mr. Nyachae): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. M. Kariuki) seconded.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Mwenje: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that we have given the money to the Ministry of energy the House will recall that, of late we have been having a lot of power blackouts particularly in the city. There are people who have made applications to the KPLC and have paid money to be supplied with electricity yet, up to now, this has not been forthcoming. Now that the Ministry has been given money they should assist the KPLC and KENGEN to ensure that we no longer have power blackouts. I hope the Minister will utilise that money to address this issue. We hope to see some change.

Mr. Angwenyi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we would like the Minister to move with speed in intensifying rural electrification so that our people can access power. The Ministry should look for cheaper sources of power.

Mr. Waithaka: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now that we have approved this Vote I hope that those concerned with the implementation of electrification projects will move with speed to install electricity in towns like Njabini Town in my constituency which is the only divisional headquarters in this country which does not have electricity. We hope that this budget will be implemented with the speed in which we passed it.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, as you will recall, on Wednesday 6th of July, 2005, the House resolved that the sittings of the House on Thursdays be extended from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. However, I think we will have to adjourn the House because we have finished the business of today. The House, therefore, remains adjourned until Tuesday, 18th October, 2005, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 5.45 p.m.